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CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK—NOVEMBER 12-19

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

NOVEMBER 1, 1922

MONTHLY IN JULY AND AUGUST

TABLE OF CONTENTS

QUESTIONABLE BOOKS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES—II.....	<i>Louis N. Feipel</i>	907
HUMANIZING THE A. L. A.—DETROIT, 1922.....	<i>Milton J. Ferguson</i>	912
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN INTELLECTUAL WORK.....	<i>Ernest Cushing Richardson</i>	915
LIBRARIANS' PENSIONS IN NEW YORK STATE.....	<i>William F. Yust</i>	921
BARGAINS.....	<i>A. L. A. Committee on Book Buying</i>	922
NOBLESSE OBLIGE IN 1923.....	<i>George W. Lee</i>	923
A GUIDE TO THE USE OF LIBRARIES (REVIEW).....	<i>Frank K. Walter</i>	925
EDITORIAL NOTES.....		927
LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS.....		928
AMONG LIBRARIANS.....		938
CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.....		942
RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES.....		944
LIBRARY OPPORTUNITIES.....		950

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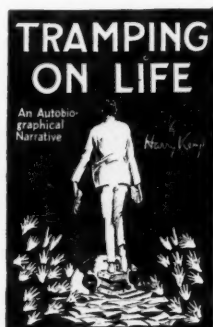
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Physical Features.—Himalaya Mountains, the highest in the world (20,000 to 29,000 feet); Vindhya Range and Eastern and Western Ghats, inclosing the Deccan plateau; deserts in Sind and Rajputana. *Principal rivers:* Indus, Ganges, and Brahmaputra.

Products.—Millet, rice, wheat, barley, oil-seeds, cotton, jute, sugar, indigo, coconuts, tobacco, tea, and opium; cotton and silk manufactures, metal work; coal, gold, and petroleum.

Chief Cities.—Calcutta (1,225,000 population), Bombay (980,000), Madras (520,000), Hyderabad (500,000), and Delhi, the capital (235,000).

History.—Aryan invasion, about 1500 B.C.; rise of Buddhism, 6th century B.C.; Alexander the Great's conquest of the northwest, 327 B.C.; Mohammedan conquest, 1001 A.D.; establishment of Mogul Empire, 1526; English East India Company obtained trading posts at Madras (1639), Bombay (1668), and Calcutta (1696); Battle of Plassey established British supremacy over the French, 1757; expansion of British India, 1774-1856; Indian Mutiny, 1857; British Crown takes over government from East India Company, 1858.

thousands more, weakened by hunger, fall victims to the plague.

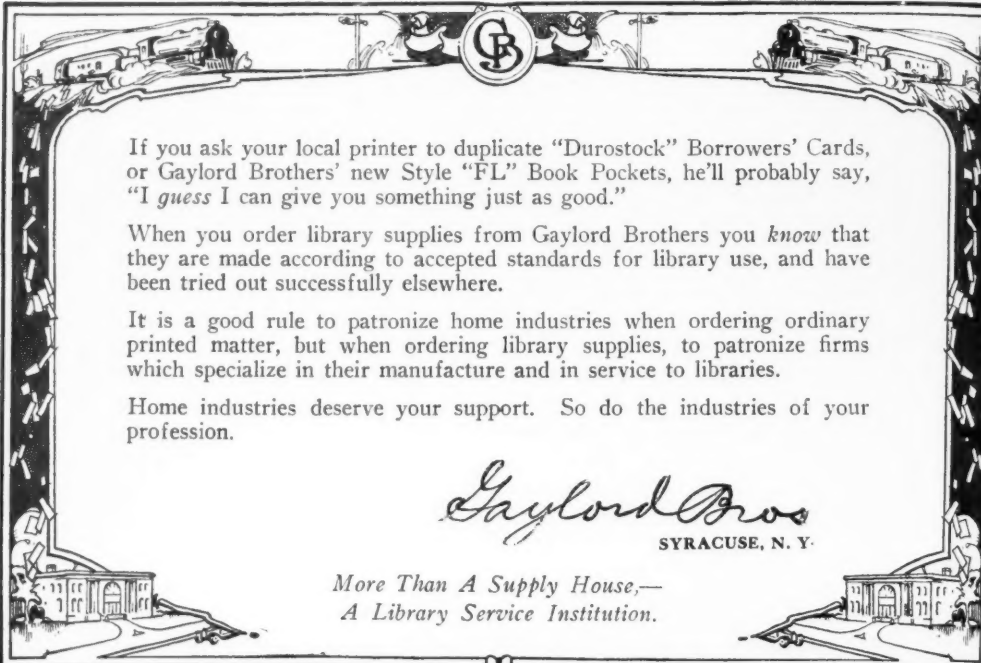
The land itself presents almost as many contrasts as the people. In the north the granite peaks of the Himalayas, the highest mountains in the world, are cloaked in eternal snows (see Himalaya Mountains), while in the extreme south Cape Comorin dips its

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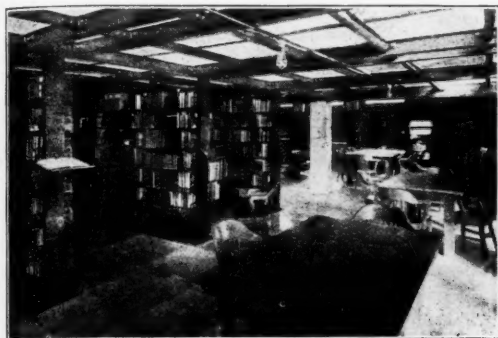
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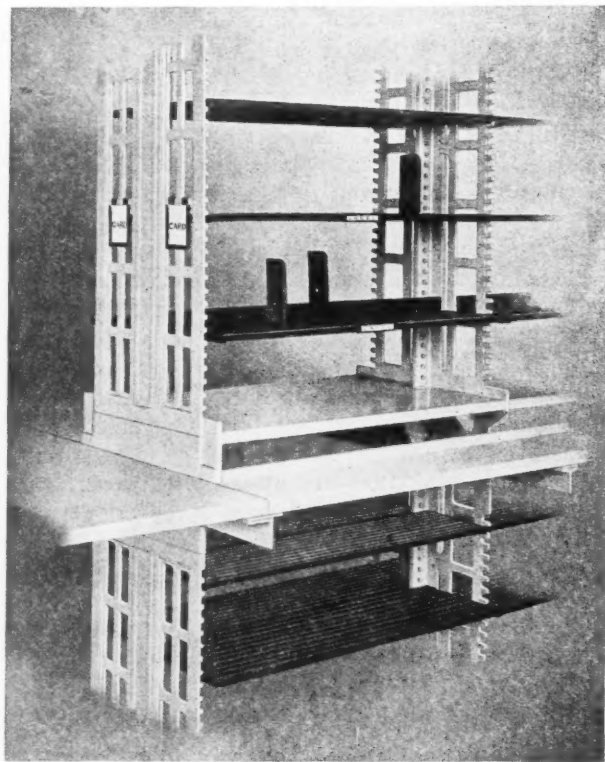
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

NOVEMBER 1, 1922



Questionable Books in Public Libraries—II

By LOUIS N. FEIPEL

Editor of Publications; Brooklyn Public Library

APPROVING OR DISAPPROVING FOR PURCHASE

THE questionnaire asked for information as to who passed on the desirability or undesirability of particular books for purchase; and the answer in four cases was simply, the librarian, or the librarian and board of trustees. But most of the answers went into more or less detail on this point.

In Indianapolis, objectionable or debatable titles are discussed at the weekly meetings of the book-selection committee (composed of the Librarian, the heads of departments serving the public directly, the heads of the catalog and order departments, the supervisor of the branches doing general library work, and the heads of the two branches specializing in work with business men and with teachers), as they come up, and a decision is then made.

In the District of Columbia, all fiction is carefully examined before purchase, either by Dr. Bowerman (the chief librarian) or Mrs. Bowerman. Sex-books are chosen from those recommended by boards of health and other authoritative sources. Books of non-fiction, for which no reliable reviews are available, are borrowed from the Library of Congress before being purchased.

In St. Paul, the rejection or approval of objectionable books of non-fiction rests with the chief of the reference division, assisted by those in charge of the various sections concerned, doubtful cases being referred to the Assistant Librarian and the Librarian. All new fiction is received on approval and read by members of the staff, with a view to restriction or exclusion, if necessary.

In Detroit the decision is made by the Book Committee, composed of the Librarian, heads of departments, the Chief of the Civics Division, the Chief of Publicity, the Instructor of Apprentices, with an added member from the Circulation, Reference, Technology, and Extension Departments.

In—*new books are read or carefully examined by one or more responsible members of the staff, and reviews looked up. They are then reviewed and discussed at a staff meeting. Final decision is made by the librarian.

In Portland, Ore., every book of fiction is read by some member of the staff, and its moral tendency commented upon. If the Librarian has reason to doubt the judgment of the reader, another review is requested. Even after a book is passed upon, the cataloger considers it; and if she has reason to believe that it should be restricted, the matter is brought up further. Often, after a book is on the shelves, it is removed, because of complaints from the public.

In Springfield, Mass., the Librarian's decision is based on the recommendations of department heads and of qualified readers outside the staff.

In Pittsburgh, all books of fiction are first read by some member of the staff, after which they are passed upon by a book committee of the staff, subject to the Director's approval.

Brockton, Mass., in addition to its own book committee, has two other persons giving time to reading and passing judgment on fiction of doubtful merit or suitability. In Denver, also, occasionally some outside reader in whom the library has much confidence, is asked to advise regarding a particular book. Two other libraries, which prefer to remain unknown, have outside readers make recommendations in this regard.

In Jersey City, the Librarian arrives at a decision from a careful study of the various reviews, and when necessary the more or less painful process of reading the book itself. He, of course, often obtains the advice and assistance of the members of the Board of Trustees and other readers before reaching a decision.

* Wherever the name of a library is omitted, it means that the library in question preferred not to be quoted in this discussion.

The Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., requires the reading of every new novel by a member of the staff before acceptance. If uncertainty arises about the desirability of the book, it may be referred to another's reading, and finally to the Librarian.

The remaining libraries do not throw any additional light on this phase of the question.

RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON BOOKS

Indianapolis places one or two copies of objectionable novels in the Central Library only. While every effort is made to keep these copies out of the hands of immature readers, they are circulated without question to adults. Sex-books are not put on a reserve shelf, but are shelved where they can be carefully supervised, and where an effort can be made to keep them from the hands of those who desire to read them from salacious motives. The same method is employed in the case of Boccaccio, etc. They are purchased for the library in good editions, but are issued only to such patrons as can appreciate them as literature. In cases where restriction seems wise, the books are stamped "Closed Shelf" on the pocket, and kept at the desk. They are thus issued to those responsible adults asking definitely for that particular book, but to no others.

In the District of Columbia, books on sex instruction are kept in locked cases, and circulated thru application at the reference desk and the information desk. The less desirable fiction, if purchased, is not duplicated. Certain standard fiction, objectionable in translation, is classed as literature, and placed in closed stacks, instead of being on open shelves with other fiction.

In St. Paul, the assistant in charge of the social science section keeps the least objectionable sex-books where she can keep an eye on the shelves. Those that are more objectionable she keeps under lock and key and they are issued only to those who do not seem to be asking for them just from curiosity. The books on art anatomy are under the special care of the fine arts assistant, and objectionable books in the industrial arts room are under the care of the assistant there. On the advice of the District Attorney, all books on the making of alcoholic drinks are kept off the open shelves. Suggestive fiction, as mentioned above, is in general circulation. This library never stamps the word "Restrict" on any of its public catalog cards.

In the Chicago Public Library, this class of books is shelved in the closed stack. Such of them as are admitted to a few of the larger branches, largely patronized by adults, are held in the custody of the branch librarians, and, on personal application, are issued at the branch

librarians' discretion. They are not ordinarily displayed among the "new books," or otherwise exhibited or exploited in any manner calculated to render them attractive or desirable to persons unacquainted with their quality and tendencies. But when they are asked for, they may be issued from the closed stack. "On the other hand, they may be easily withheld, in the event of plain misapprehension of their purport on the part of the applicant. And the latter phrase covers a multitude of contingencies."

In Detroit, suggestive fiction and "Erotica" are provided with "For Study Purposes Only" slips, are kept on closed shelves, and are given out at the discretion of the Circulation Department. Sex-books are not usually restricted.

The St. Louis Public Library places such books either on closed shelves in the stack, or in the reference department, or in the Librarian's office, according to their character; and they are circulated only among persons who will evidently use them legitimately.

Books which the—Public Library believes to be morally harmful, are marked "Restricted," kept off the open shelves, given out only on request, and given to young people only when the assistant is convinced that it is right for them to have them. The branch libraries have very few restricted books.

In the—Public Library, the ordinary practice is to buy only a single copy of this class of books, and to give this out only on special application. "No such books are permitted in the Juvenile Department of the library, nor would we circulate them to minors, even upon request."

In Jersey City, objectionable fiction is restricted in circulation to mature readers. This is accomplished by placing a distinguishing letter on the book and charging-card, which indicates to the attendant that the book may be lent to responsible adult readers. The Librarian says: "This method has worked satisfactorily in this library; but any restriction such as this must be handled very carefully, and must be given as little publicity as possible, or it may defeat the end for which it is intended. . . . Sex-books are kept in separate collections, such as Teachers' Library or the Medical Department and their circulation is carefully restricted. They are only listed in the card catalog. The unexpurgated editions of the classics, such as Boccaccio, etc., have not been placed in our library."

In the Pratt Institute Free Library, books recognized as meritorious writing, but of questionable or erotic tendency, are subject to restriction, being significantly marked, retired to less accessible locations, or actually locked up.

In Kansas City, a popular series on sex hygiene is issued to adults only. The library does not have all of them. An unexpurgated edition of the "Arabian Nights," altho in the library, is not listed in the card catalog; and its use is restricted.

In Toronto, such books, if recognized classics, are put in the Reference Library and are starred. They are given out only with the approval of the head of the division.

In Baltimore, likewise, objectionable books are starred, and circulation is permitted only on special approval.

Denver places these books on shelves closed to the public, and loans them only on request.

Brockton indicates volumes restricted, in general circulation, by placing a star near the call number.

In Springfield, objectionable books are kept in locked cases, the circulation being restricted to adults, except that sex-books are given, with discrimination, to minors. The library does not attempt to discriminate among adults, "as it is hardly for the library to say who is fitted to take a book, and who is not."

In Portland, a label reading "This book is not issued to minors" is pasted in every objectionable book. Such books are kept in locked cases. If a sex-book is on a social study list, it is put on the open shelf, so that the user is not put to the inconvenience and annoyance of having to ask for it specially. There is usually such a demand for these books, used in certain courses, that it is only the students of the course who secure access to them.

The Public Library Commission of the State of New Jersey circulates objectionable books only to those people who wish them for study purposes, and it asks that they be returned to the Commission immediately, and not loaned further.

In Indiana, books retained by the Commission because of their literary value and in spite of their sex emphasis, are used only for special calls from libraries and clubs familiar with their contents.

The remaining replies do not add anything of importance to this phase of the subject.

LISTING OBJECTIONABLE BOOKS

The question was asked whether or not the library (or commission) listed its approved objectionable books in its printed lists of additions. Nine libraries and two commissions answered categorically, "No." Four libraries answered equally categorically, "Yes." The Jersey City Public Library replied that it did not generally list such titles, but had no fixed rule. So also the St. Louis Public Library, which says

the listing or non-listing depended on circumstances. One library says that it does list objectionable books, but that some fiction is omitted. The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh lists objectionable books, "with very few exceptions." From Springfield, Mass., came the reply, "Yes and no, according to circumstances." The—Public Library never lists such books in its weekly list of additions, and only rarely in its monthly bulletin. Finally, in the Public Library of the District of Columbia, books that are not objectionable in themselves, but must be circulated only to appropriate readers, are sometimes listed in the printed bulletin.

GIVING REASONS FOR NON-APPROVAL

Librarians appear to be unanimous in believing that it is inadvisable to give general publicity in their communities to the fact that certain works are not approved by them for acquisition; but as regards giving reasons for not approving certain titles to particular library users on request, opinion seems to be about equally divided for and against.

The Pratt Institute Free Library, of Brooklyn, is always glad to state its reasons for not buying a certain book. And with respect to general publicity on this score, it refers to a statement made in its *Quarterly Booklist*, Spring Issue, 1922. The stand there taken is to the effect that as the cost of books restricts library buying, certain books simply cannot be afforded, on the ground that they are less essential than others.

The St. Paul Public Library keeps a file of review cards for all fiction read by the staff, and this includes rejected and restricted books, with reasons for rejection and restriction. These reasons are imparted to individual inquirers on request.

The—Public Library gave a decidedly affirmative reply to the question about giving reasons to particular persons. "It furnishes," so the librarian states, "an opportunity to enlighten inquirers regarding standards of book selection, and it sometimes makes them more thoughtful and more critical of moral tendencies in their own reading, or that of their young people." In one case the Library printed extracts from adverse reviews and handed them to people asking for the book, with good results.

The City Library of Springfield, Mass., prefers not to give reasons for rejection to particular inquirers, but does so if the inquirer persists. The reasons given are general, however, rather than specific. In this connection the Librarian adds: "We do not argue."

The Library Association of Portland, Ore., while not believing in giving general publicity

to this matter, nevertheless does not hesitate to give reasons for rejection, when asked for them. For the most part, their general excuse is that lack of funds makes it imperative to buy the books which will have the widest use.

NEWSPAPER CRITICISM

The practically complete non-occurrence of newspaper criticism on this subject would seem to be a matter for self-congratulation. Only three libraries made replies other than categorical "No's" to the question whether or not any newspaper controversies had arisen under their administrations with regard to this class of books. The—Public Library said, "Nothing worth mentioning." The St. Paul Public Library said: "No. But many comments have appeared in the newspapers." The Public Library of the District of Columbia said: "Newspapers sometimes try to draw us into a statement that a certain book has been rejected or excluded. Usually able to dodge."

WITHDRAWING OBJECTIONABLE BOOKS

The answers to the question whether or not the various libraries (or commissions) had ever withdrawn an objectionable book after it had once been added to their collections, were extremely various. They ranged from categorical "No's"¹ and "Yes's,"² to "No, but books have been transferred to the closed shelf after having circulated from the open shelf" (Indianapolis), "Almost never" (Springfield), "Very rarely" (Pittsburgh), "Once in a great while" (—Public Library), "Occasionally" (St. Louis Public Library and—Public Library), "Yes, a few" (Kansas City), "Yes, on rare occasions" (Pratt Institute Free Library), "Yes, even librarians sometimes make mistakes" (Jersey City), "Yes, i.e., if book proves really objectionable, it is withdrawn or removed from open shelves for restricted circulation" (District of Columbia), and "Yes, if the library has made a mistake in purchasing an objectionable book, either thru a written review of the book or in its recommendation for purchase . . . [but] no book has ever been withdrawn on which final judgment has been passed by the library, even if this book has been objected to by a reader" (Denver).

The Detroit Public Library recalls only one instance of such withdrawal. The Librarian in Portland, Ore., writes: "We often withdraw objectionable books, that is to say, we remove them to the Minor Label shelves. I think it is rather exceptional that we will ever take them from the library, altho we would not hesitate to

do so, if there were a real reason. Recently the American Legion requested us to withdraw a war novel. This we refused to do, but we were willing to make it a Minor Label book." The Indiana Library Commission withdrew one novel sordidly realistic as to sex; another (favorably noted in the *Booklist* for November, 1921) for general worthlessness; and a third for describing college life as all debauchery and flabbiness.

APPROVED AND REJECTED TITLES

In response to the request that librarians give some examples of objectionable titles which they had approved for acquisition, and also some objectionable titles which they had not thus approved, quite a variety of titles was given. Seven librarians declined to mention such titles. The Toronto Public Library, desirous of avoiding the exploitation of titles, nevertheless hinted at scores of current novels, most of which came from Great Britain. A striking feature of the lists of approved and disapproved titles is the fact that in a number of instances one and the same title has been approved by certain libraries and rejected by others.

A BRITISH VIEW

In conclusion, and by way of comparison, it might be well to consider the views of a British writer on the subject, as expressed in the May issue of the *Library World*, in connection with a controversy waged in the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*. The writer says:

"In the first place, it will be well if we remember that the librarian does not act so much as a guardian of public morals as an expender of public monies. He must distinguish between artistic and moral issues. In the former he should lead, in the second follow public opinion. Taste and culture belong to a cultured minority—morality is the expression of the opinion of the majority. A work of art may be for the few, but a moral law is justified only to the extent to which it can be universal. To come to the 'osses, tho ninety per cent of the rate payers may fail to see the point of duplicating Conrad instead of multiplying Corelli, the librarians should turn a deaf ear to their protests, but if thirty per cent decided that a book were undesirable on moral grounds, it should be barred—with one reservation to be discussed later. The librarian has no right to spend public money on anything which the public as a whole does not consider desirable—the decadent poem, the revolutionary news rag, and the productions of the innumerable quacks with which the world is infested, all come under this heading. Note the word I used—'desirable.' The public never ventures to describe

¹ Chicago, Brockton, and one that prefers to remain unknown.

² Toronto, Baltimore, Newark, St. Paul, and two who prefer to remain unknown.

any work of literary value as undesirable, even tho it may be above its head.

"It may be argued that this theory is based upon a fallacy—that there is always a large demand for the scandalous and undesirable. This argument, however, is the result of a false assessment of opinion, the result of hearkening to the loudest shout. Tho fifty fanatics might fill the 'silly columns' of the entire press with demands that folk should wear sandals and walk bare-headed, the fifty million who wear ordinary boots and common or garden hats would never dream of mentioning the subject. Similarly, tho the few who look to find 'Salome' in their local library write to the papers, the many who don't want it ignore its existence. If the evidence is properly examined, it will be found that the majority of people have no wish to read doubtful literature. If the majority did countenance this kind of book, it would *ipso facto* be impossible for it to be described as immoral.

"The question now arises of what should be done with regard to the immoral book which is also a literary masterpiece. I should have said that the question would have arisen were there any such books, but there aren't. A masterpiece could not be immoral. If Euripides had lauded Helen as a great lover instead of bewailing the calamity born of her sin, we should have a very different opinion of the worth of his plays. But altho there are no immoral masterpieces, there are unsuitable masterpieces—that is to say, works of art that it is not possible to circulate freely. This is not the fault of the books but of the readers. There are some who are unable to understand moral values. Here the librarian must exercise his judgment, not, however, as to which books people should read, but as to which people should read certain books. This is the answer to so much of the cavilling of those who expect to find Rabelais in the junior library. Mr. Jast, of Manchester, who is taken to task in the before-mentioned article for not placing "The New Machiavelli" on the open shelves, is not guilty of passing judgment upon the morality of H. G. Wells' book. He is passing judgment upon the immorality of some of the people who might want to read "The New Machiavelli"—which is a very different matter. I have little doubt that this book is available, if only the Manchester Evening Chronicle Special Correspondent would trouble to make proper enquiries, with certain safeguards applicable to several score of similar works, which belong to the class of unsuitable books. . . . These are not [by] immoral writers, but unsuitable—unsuitable for the degenerates who would use their books only as aphrodisiacs; unsuitable for those who are

immature physically, mentally, or morally. If these books were immoral, we should have no right to buy them—but, as it is, they are works of value when placed in the right hands, and of no harm when kept out of the wrong ones. What, then, is an immoral book? It is not so much a question of theme as of treatment; therefore, so far as librarians are concerned, we might substitute in our argument the word unhealthy for immoral. In a sense, morality is concerned only with the health—the health of nations, the health of men and women. The law of civilization which discountenances prostitution is maintained only with a view to furthering the development of the human race; the immorality of war is only recognized as such, when it is recognized, because of the retrogressive effect of war. So an unhealthy book is the same as an immoral book; but to state the question in those words is to remove a deal of worry to the censor. We librarians do not like to pose as moralists, but we have no objection to taking upon ourselves the duties of the physician. And as doctors, we can have no hesitation in sterilizing our shelves, in cutting out and casting from us the morbid, neurotic, wrong-headed decadent books, of which there are too many written nowadays. We must not act against any man who wishes to deal with any question, no matter what its potential dangers may be, so long as his aim is to help mankind to live. We can keep his work away from the wrong people—but when the only effect of a book upon anyone who took it seriously would be to induce morbid pessimism, we save our trust-funds for better things."

Free on Request

A copy of "Eyesight Conservation" being bulletin one issued by the Eyesight Conservation Council of America (Times Building, New York), and covering the subject Eye Conservation in Industry will be given to any library requesting it. This is part of the study of waste in industry being conducted under the auspices of the Federated American Engineering Societies.

The *Hospital School Journal*, published by the Michigan Hospital School, Inc., in the interest of the welfare of cripples will be sent free to public libraries undertaking to keep them for permanent use. Joe F. Sullivan, Farmington, Mich., is the editor.

It should be noted that not all pamphlets mentioned in "Sources of Material for Library Extension Service" (L. J., September 15) are free. The Ward McDermott Press has been receiving requests for Loughran and Madden's "Immigration and Americanization" and "Our Foreign Policy and the Monroe Doctrine," which retail at forty cents the copy.

Humanizing the A.L.A.—Detroit, 1922*

By MILTON J. FERGUSON

Librarian, California State, Library

IT may be news to a few of the 5000 sturdy souls who make up the American Library Association, that it really stands in need of being brought more closely in touch with human affairs, that it is not now a cog of first importance in the big world machine. But the facts are that it does lack certain essential qualities and characteristics which, if strenuously sought, might be attained, that its members are strangely enough too unearthly, too sublimated, too far off the ground to be able to accomplish their mission of high importance on this earth. I have long had a vague feeling that the indictment above made might be true; I have, perhaps, in times past tried to phrase portions of the charge; but its full burden did not touch my consciousness until the meeting in Detroit. The contrast between the functioning of that great dynamic city and of our large but static order was too vivid to escape even my eyes, accustomed as they have become to considering what is in the A. L. A. is right. I may add that a western business man, who in June, 1922, got his first insight into the workings of the Association, was an instrument in my awakening. What he thought . . . may be expressed in the thought I have tried to convey in choosing my title: the A. L. A. does stand in need of being humanized.

The *Detroit News* of June 27 carried an editorial entitled "The Librarians." To begin with it sketches in a general way the thought implied in the word progress; and decides that in the development of a community other things are "to be considered besides mere geographical expansion and increase in population." It concludes that, "A lively and many-sided interest in the affairs of the community in the part of all its members is the best safeguard for the progress of the group." It holds the belief that "ideas can be spread only thru the medium of books . . . that the more books are read in any community the more will that community be safe against ignorance and prejudice." The job of circulating enough books to squeeze error and prejudice and ignorance out of the land, the writer quite naturally leaves to the A. L. A. and its membership. The indictment innocently enough and quite unintentionally comes near the end of the editorial in these words: "Altho removed from intimate contact with the noise and

bustle of the communities from which these delegates come, they do none the less play an important part in the progress of the cities in which they labor quietly behind circulation desks and in between the stacks."

In the opinion of this writer, librarians are still cloistered, still myopic, still quietly unobtrusive; but do, nevertheless, wield some sort of influence in the life of the community. I am willing to agree with him, I can see certain signs of a less untroubled sleep; and am only impatient that the entire Association does not perceive its shortcomings more clearly and set itself energetically to the correction of its failure. As a good example of progress, there is the city of Detroit—about whose working, more later.

It is not to be denied that all conferences held in the heart of a thriving, business environment suffer a heavy handicap. I have had some little experience with other associations, however, and I am almost convinced that the A. L. A. permits itself to be dominated by circumstances. It is not quite able to rise superior to its surroundings and thereby register a triumph greater than if it worked unimpeded. The trouble, perhaps, is that while our band upon the road it is not of a mind where it is going. It were unkind, in substantiation of this statement, to cite the enlarged program. A great pothole was made, the world was on edge, all that remained for the librarian to keep it so was for him quickly and neatly to slip his chunk underneath. And while he set about the job with enthusiasm he soon found that his various members do not work in co-ordination; and for every foot he gained in one direction, he lost twelve inches in the other. He was unconvinced himself; he was, therefore, not a very convincing advocate before the jury of the world.

It would not be surprising if an association with a membership running into the thousands and coming together only once a year were unable to do team work; but one would expect rather definite action from the leaders. In the Council of the A. L. A. we may safely assume that the directing forces of the organization are to be found. Here, if anywhere, we should find plan, method, system, precision of action. But do we? We do not. The Council comes together in solemn conclave; questions previously announced come up for determination and action. They are discussed, revised, amended; and almost invariably are referred back to the

* Reprinted from *News Notes of California Libraries* for July—slightly abridged.

committee whence they came, there to slumber for another year. Thus nothing is done. What is characteristic of the Council in large measure is characteristic of the whole Association.

If one should venture to pick out a tag for the present period of American history, he might not be far wrong if he called it the "age of conventions. . . ." Holding conventions has become an art of a kind. This year in Detroit it began to appear that even the A. L. A. had learned some of the rudiments of the game: the machinery of registration ran smoothly and for the first time in its history a registration fee—small, as might be expected—was collected. It costs somebody money to stage a big gathering. Nobody would expect to get into any sort of show without the price; yet it was estimated that several hundred persons failed to put up their little dollar, and others even spoke on the convention floor against the iniquity of expecting librarians to pay. If our directing forces could be induced to investigate a number of big gatherings organized on a business basis, it might be possible to develop sufficient sentiment to put the A. L. A. financially, on a par with modern convention practices.

The great difficulty, as I see it, is that the library profession has grown upon an unwholesome diet of penury. No other public service is being maintained at such a low rate. The people expect the library to function on almost nothing a year; and librarians themselves have too generally acquiesced in the arrangement. . . . No one expects the public school system to be supported by private benefaction. The people may squirm at the enhanced cost of new school buildings which are rising like mushrooms of great stability all over the country, they may look twice at the pretty fair salaries of the present day teaching profession; but they foot the bills. . . . Yet, if I remember correctly, one of the speakers at Detroit lifted a prayer for another giver of library buildings. What we need rather is a well planned and continued campaign to convince the public of a fact with which all ages have been conversant, that if a thing is worth having, it is worth paying for, and that gifts too often defeat their good intentions. Rome was not built up thru munificent donations; but, if I read history aright, much giving accompanied that once glorious nation on her downward course.

One of the subjects attacked from all angles was that of recruiting for the profession. The battalions representing America, Canada, college libraries, special libraries, school libraries, children's libraries, and library schools all poured in their hottest fire on this strongly fortified citadel in the Hindenburg line resisting li-

brary progress. No startling, or all-saving charges were driven home; but a belief was somehow current that in the end all would be well. Now as a matter of cold fact is the problem of recruiting not merely one of figures? The work is fascinating to individuals of a certain type; it gives opportunity for that missionary spirit which no longer finds its happiness in ministering to the heathen: it offers employment to a finer element of modern society which actually wants to serve society. The men and women who entered its portals years ago could not be driven therefrom except by physical force. The rub comes, however, with the younger additions, the latest accessions to the ranks, as it were. They are subject to modern demands in the matter of dress, entertainment, table and domicile. It is not to be supposed that they are going to enter upon a professions of doubtful monetary rewards while others of greater promise, and shorter hours, beckon alluringly. Yes, just plain money in sufficient quantity will fill the library ranks; and I, for one, have no fear as to the quality of the recruits.

In one respect librarians in convention are under a great handicap. Their work, as the editorial writer in the *Detroit News* has expressed it, is behind desks and between quiet stacks. The public is induced by whispered example, during fifty-one weeks of the year, to modulate its voice, to speak indeed as tho someone were dead in the house. Is it to be wondered, then, that during the fifty-second when in convention assembled the librarian is unable to raise his voice over his chin? It has so long been accustomed to go trickling down his collar that to do otherwise would be bolshevistic, or revolutionary to say the least, even though the audience behind the tenth row in chorus repeat and reiterate, "louder, louder." My urgent recommendation, therefore, would be that all professional speakers on library programs subscribe for and actually take a full year's course in public speaking before making a bow before the gathering. How vividly did President Burton of the University of Michigan stand out in contrast to almost every librarian who appeared on the program. A little more of the dramatic in the presentation would quite obviously make up for certain dryness of matter.

Librarians who were on the program and who struggled to get it over may, if by accident they should ever learn of my strictures, counter with the charge that library audiences are really not easy to speak to. And I for one would have to acknowledge the justness of the retort. It has become customary in most big conventions to have a sergeant-at-arms and an efficient corps of assistants, who would see to it that the aud-

ience was properly seated, that aisles and exits were not blocked and that the speakers were not duly handicapped by the incoming and outgoing of restless auditors. Librarians bring their whispering faculties, sharpened by long practice, into the meeting; they take the opportunity there to greet old friends and catch up on the past year's news; they indulge in much note or letter writing—which? they seem unable to sit thru even the best of the program; and they gather in a dense crowd at the main entrance. The speakers, therefore, do play an uphill game; in the language of an old time sentimental song, they are more to be pitied than censured.

The Association, in the opinion of a noted visiting English librarian, is too large. His judgment may be correct; perhaps we ought to divide our delegates, permitting some of them to come within the voting pale while the larger group remains without merely as auditors. Certainly it is difficult for all to get together in general assembly; and when members are scattered into sections and allied associations, it is difficult to get appreciable results. Librarians, if one may hazard a guess, are very much like the churches: they are individualists; they believe in splitting the faith; they do not run well in the pack.

As a westerner I was more than moderately interested in the time and attention given to the subject of county libraries. Not so many years ago the topic was one which was whispered about, but not put on the printed program. Unfortunately, the President's radio talk thereon got by me; my receiver was not working properly, or perhaps cross currents interfered. But whatever the ideas expressed, the plan was a good one and I trust those more fortunate than myself were properly convinced—especially, of course, the nonprofessional listeners-in. The county library section was a disappointment. Why should anyone travel even one mile, to say nothing of fifteen hundred, to hear an endless discussion of whether county branch custodians should be called librarians or custodians; and whether a branch is a branch or merely a deposit station. After all, beloved, the county library is no esoteric philosophy: it is merely an attempt to secure enough money to give a fair service under competent direction. It is much more a matter of rates and incomes than it is of deposit stations, custodians and book wagons.

There are always, however, interesting features about these annual gatherings—in addition to the struggle to get three meals of a sort each day. The town, the local setting, is a consideration. As there are few repetitions in the place selected, a regular attendant ought in time to know his country pretty thoroly. Of Detroit we have all

heard much . . . Naturally a city which doubled in stature in ten years, jumping from 500,000 to 1,000,000, would be interesting to a resident of the only state boasting a Los Angeles. . . .

One of the big attractions of Detroit professionally is, of course, its beautiful new main library building which is evidence sufficient that this big city on the St. Claire River believes in library service and is willing to pay for it. Here on the first evening of the conference was held the annual reception under conditions which contributed vastly to the enjoyability of the event.

Detroit, you may know, is a very popular convention city. It is full of life and activity; and has cultivated the art of hospitality to a degree which makes the visitor feel the whole business was staged for his personal entertainment. The Public Library in its every-day work has developed a sense of its responsibility for the human side of its staff and of their relationship to the local citizenry. Thru the office of its social secretary, a work which with great profit might well be emphasized among libraries generally, it was easy for the A. L. A. and Detroit to plan and execute the happiest of arrangements for the "parties" of the convention. The plays given by local talent, the dance, and the "moonless" moonlight excursion on the good ship "Brittania" were events of first importance in the humanizing of the A. L. A. The next city in which the Association gathers may not be so fortunate in the personality and ability of its director of social events, it may not have a river St. Claire made picturesque by the dachshund of water commerce, the ore vessels, it may not be able to offer as added attractions factories of the bewildering complexity of the Ford plant; but it should present something which will give the librarians knowledge of new conditions and people, and an interest beyond their field limited too often to a view from behind the charging desk. Detroit acknowledges that she is both "beautiful and dynamic." Where do we go next year?

"Books for Sunday School Teachers and for Bible Students in the Norwich Public Library" is a 70-page annotated and classified list, prepared as the result of co-operation between the Norwich Public Library Committee and the Norwich and Norfolk Sunday School Union, with a view to giving the Sunday School Teacher opportunities to improve his technique and to increase his knowledge of the subject matter of instructions so as to arrive at that standard which is set up by the day school and which inevitably causes children to make comparisons between the day and Sunday schools in favor of the former.

International Co-operation in Intellectual Work

By ERNEST CUSHING RICHARDSON, Director of Princeton University Library

THE recent appointment of a League of Nations' Committee on Intellectual Co-operation* has turned a new attention to the bibliographical enterprises fostered by the Belgian Government and under the direction of Senator Lafontaine and M. Paul Otlet. These were at least the occasion of the League Committee and it will necessarily take these into consideration. It did in fact send a Member of the Secretariat to the Brussels meeting of August 20-22, on the future of this work, at which the A. L. A. also had a representative. This representative was however, as at the meeting of the International Catalog of which I shall speak later, an observer rather than a member, for practical membership consisted in representatives of some twenty governments and the representative of the League. The resolutions passed looked to these governments and to the League, not to anything in which the A. L. A. would directly take part. The whole matter is a good deal in the air still and dependent on what the League Committee does.

Meantime it may be interesting to American librarians to have a brief account of what the enterprises really are and the first reaction of the Association's representative.

THE BRUSSELS ENTERPRISES

The Palais Mondial which houses the enterprises is a wing of the great exhibition building at the Place du Cinquentaire. It is splendidly set in the park at the end of the one straight street which leads from the heart of the city and then on again in a superb boulevard indefinitely towards the Congo Museum. The floor space is extensive and for the present adequate. It forms a splendid standing ground for

a group of international enterprises whether under local or League direction.

The enterprises themselves similarly offer a concrete basis and starting point for a number of important enterprises which belong to any universal plan for organized co-operation in intellectual work together with one or two which are less concrete and less bibliographical but are none the less going concerns recognized as of an evident practical character for the real proposition of International Co-operation in intellectual work.

The enterprises are as follows:

1. The Universal Repertory of Printed Books.

2. The International Library.

3. The Universal Encyclopedia.

4. The Joint Catalog of Belgian Libraries.

5. The International Museum.

6. The International Summer University.

7. The Union of International Associations.

8. To this should be added the Palais Mondial itself and the project for an International City.

1. The Universal Repertory. This now contains about twelve million cards, about half and half author and classified. The classified cards, however, contain a vast number of periodical references and the author catalog, which is made up by uniting the Library of Congress cards with pasted slips of the British Museum and Paris printed catalogs and various other printed catalogs, contains a great many duplicate cards of the same title. I figure, however, that it contains about one-third of the world's printed books which are figured in the very interesting museum exhibits as about eleven million. These cards are not edited but entered under the entry of the library itself. It forms therefore a strictly joint catalog of the many libraries included. The name of the library is stamped on the card, as well as obvious from its type, and the net effect is that one has before him the exact data by which to enquire for a book in its library. It may be that it is all the better for being unedited. Its value as a universal catalog is still very partial but as a finding list for books which exist in only one or two of the libraries included, its usable value is very considerable and its possible value, if carried out on a large scale, very great indeed. Scepticism about this grandiose effort toward listing universal literature is wasted in view of this concrete demonstration on a large scale of the real simplicity and utili-

* The Committee consists of D. N. Banerjee, professor of political economy at the University of Calcutta; Henri Bergson, professor of philosophy at the College of France; Mlle Bonnevie, professor of zoology at the University of Christiania; Dr. A. de Castro, director of the faculty of medicine at the University of Rio de Janeiro; Mme. Curie-Sklodowska, professor of physics at the University of Paris; M. J. Destree, member of the Royal Academy of Archaeology of Belgium, and formerly Minister of Sciences and Arts; A. Einstein, professor of physics at the University of Berlin; Gilbert A. Murray, professor of Greek philology at Oxford University; G. de Reynold, professor of French literature at the University of Berne; F. Ruffini, professor of ecclesiastical law at the University of Turin, and formerly Minister of Public Education; I. de Torres Quevedo, director of the Laboratorio Electro-Mecanica at Madrid; Dr. George Ellery Hale, professor of astrophysics at the University of Chicago.

ty. One might criticise details but must admire the long step towards realization of a good idea. The classified part is sketchy still and incomplete. It would need an enormous amount of attention before it half realizes the sanguine hopes of M. Otlet, but there are even now sections among the six million cards which are carried to enough fullness to be of real service to workers. It would, however, be very disappointing to one looking for a consistently developed system.

All Americans are familiar with the stupendous extension of the decimal classification which was prepared for this repertory by the Institute. This is now out of print and a meeting of the Institute was recently held to consider its revision and reprinting.

2. The International Library. This is made up by joining sixty-two small libraries of an international character existing in Brussels and is thus a sort of rough and ready international library in the sense of one which touches all sorts of international questions. It has been suggested that this be extended into an international library in the sense of one which tries to have the literature of all nations—a sort of huge library to which the repertory would be a fitting catalog. There is a real place for a library handling internationalism and international topics in a large way. The League Library is a library of this sort; and something more extensive at Brussels or elsewhere would meet a real need, but the bigger scheme rather staggers the imagination. As a matter of fact the idea simply duplicates the task of the national library. It is based more or less on the idea of receiving copyright copies. Altho the idea has been favourably looked and almost adopted by the League Committee, it is in substance unpractical in view, first, of the difficulties of getting copyright book depositories increased; second, the fact that many copyright books are worthless for intellectual work; and, third, the enormous expense of keeping and administering worthless books.

The Library is of course very miscellaneous and its organization far from complete: it numbers now about a hundred and fifty thousand volumes, aims at two million and suggests twelve million.

3. The Universal Encyclopedia, on which much local interest and hope are now concentrated, is simply a classified collection of pamphlets, clippings, etc., with which American libraries are familiar and many of them practice on a large scale—a sort of dossier of the subject in vertical file form. This collection numbers about a million items in ten thousand groups of folders. It is therefore a

real thing, and in its ambition perhaps unique, but not as unique an idea as it was thought.

4. The Joint Catalog of Belgian Libraries is useful as far as it goes but is not very fully carried thru, and is of course not as extensive as the union catalog of the Library of Congress or even those of other libraries which file the printed cards of the Library of Congress, Chicago, Harvard, John Crerar, etc.

5. The International Museum consists of a great series of forty rooms rather after the fashion of an international exposition exhibiting the intellectual culture of the various nations. Quite a number of nations have taken hold of the project of forming and sustaining the rooms for their respective countries. Other rooms are rather sketchily provided with matters illustrating various aspects of these countries but most of them contain one or more strikingly ingenious exhibits—often statistical charts and graphic representations. This is another big idea with a concrete outlined sketch and some parts filled in sufficiently to give an idea of what the thing might become with general national support.

In addition to these individual national museums is the museum of International Bibliography in several rooms, exhibiting the history of the book, the psychology of the book, etc. . . . It has a wealth of ingenious graphic illustrations and statistics suggesting an almost unlimited field for this museum of international bibliography.

6. The International University is a summer school on international topics by a highly international faculty. It has its analogy in the Williamstown Summer School and the school started this summer at Geneva—made notable, by the way, by a couple of slashing lectures by former ambassador Hill. A striking tribute to this feature was paid by the Chinese representative who said that Chinese students in America, England and the other countries naturally got their ideas from the standpoint of that country thru the year, and they found it of great value to enlarge these impressions in the summer by getting ideas from the standpoint of various countries and in association with the students of the various countries. It is a real idea and one in advance of Williamstown or Geneva. The provision for this university consists of half a dozen rooms in the Palais Mondial for lecture and audience rooms. These are simple in the extreme and the arrangements for lodging and food are equally simple and inexpensive—in dormitories as low as fifteen cents for lodging and breakfast. Living in Brussels for those who can pay more is proportionately cheap for first class accom-

modation. They get perhaps one hundred to two hundred students from a score of nations.

7. The Union of International Associations has some sort of adhesion from more than two hundred associations and nearly one half of all the registered intellectual associations of an international character. It strikes perhaps nearer the centre of the problem of organized international co-operation and intellectual work than any of the others. These associations are themselves organizations of intellectual work in their field and a general organization of these organizations is obviously the starting point for any effort for practical international co-operation covering all branches of intellectual work.

8. The Palais Mondial, housing as it does all these enterprises and granted by the Belgian government for this purpose, is the material basis of the work and the germ or starting point from which the fertile minds of the originators of this great group of organizations are evolving the project of an International City. This at first sight sounds more impractical and visionary than the others did when they were started, but like the rest it has the beginning of a concrete realization in the Palais Mondial itself. This is a concrete, practical affair, a going concern. What this really means is that the Palais, like the work should be very greatly extended and they have a practical suggestion as to how it should be done, i.e., that the coming world's exposition be held in Brussels a few years hence, that its buildings be so planned that they may remain permanently and house the expansion of these enterprises, especially that of the International Museum.

The first observation on all this is that Mr. Bishop and the others who thought that this matter deserved more attention from American librarians, were right. These plans and their authors have been treated by many as grandiose, visionary and impractical, and have been neglected by us, but the authors of the idea have pegged away for twenty-seven years and have produced for the world of which we are a part, a going concern with all these features of real usefulness and a concrete property of organized results. It is true that most of these are not only incomplete but in large part only sketchy. On the other hand at almost every point the material, so far as it goes, is organized in such a way as to be a concrete and permanent contribution toward the respective propositions, to which all accretion in the established methods will be a contribution toward a complete result. Even where unorganized in detail there is little that can be called confused.

It is an orderly, methodical result, all along the line—astonishingly so for the force at disposal.

Further than this it is a monument of concrete permanent result for the amount of money expended. When it is considered that the total amount expended is (considering the rate of exchange in the last few years) less than a million gold francs, or less than two hundred thousand dollars and that it has with this produced the repertory of twelve million cards, a library of a hundred and fifty thousand volumes, the Museum, Encyclopedia, Union Catalog and the operations of the University, it is little short of a marvel economically. Much more imperfection could be excused than can be found.

It is true that this result has been achieved at this cost only because Messrs. Lafontaine and Otlet have had no salaries and have given or loaned considerable sums to the enterprise. It is an open secret for example that the Nobel prize which Senator Lafontaine received was largely absorbed into this. Moreover the directors have had an extraordinary personal influence in enlisting voluntary collaboration and the accepting of positions at almost nominal salaries. Still at best the amount of cost is surprisingly small for the results.

While both the directors are men of ideal and enthusiasms, it is quite beside the mark to think of the men or their enterprises as visionary. To begin with, Senator Lafontaine has been for very many years a practicing lawyer and Belgian Senator. He has kept the leadership in the Socialist party, which has been growing stronger and stronger, and he is at present a vice-president of the Senate. Moreover, he and M. Otlet have not only put their enterprises in this well ordered position for development, but have selected and trained an unusually intelligent staff of workers to carry things forward. It is obvious that if they had more money it would be spent toward these objects with a minimum of waste. Now whatever the amount of enthusiasm, this kind of thing is the opposite of the visionary, who jumps at an idea, leaving a trail of confusion in his wake.

It must be confessed that at some point these universal ideas are held without a full perspective, e.g. the bulk and cost of a universal library, the proportions that the classified catalog must reach before M. Otlet can begin to put in operation his idea of photographing any group of cards for any users. Nevertheless the directors are quite aware of the limitations and deficiencies of their work, and nothing certainly could be more modest than

Senator Lafontaine's attitude and expression in all these matters. One can well believe the stories that are told of his great social influence among the masses in Brussels and of his achievements for social and industrial peace.

When one considers that the whole amount put into these enterprises is less than the annual budget of many American libraries, including several university libraries, one wonders whether we are extravagant, or else these men in Brussels have not handled their small resources so that they deserve to rule over not less than "ten cities."

In view of this achievement, it is idle to pick technical flaws. These men have at least pointed out something which ought to be done, set up a working example of it and developed methods for carrying it to full or large practical realization.

THE INTERNATIONAL CATALOG

The meeting of the International Catalog on July 22nd was a good deal of a surprise. Not only were there nine or ten nations represented by official government representatives but several of these showed a very vigorous interest and a disposition to continue contributions and assist in paying the accumulated debt. It appears that there are more than two million slips prepared for publication and only awaiting means. The members also showed a strong disposition to get together with the Zurich Index and other enterprises. This was the trend of a written communication of the Smithsonian Institute, which expressed in a very sensible way what would be the natural American way of looking at the matter. It seemed quite obvious that some provision must be made for the scientists, first for the bibliography of their subjects and then for annotated titles or abstracts, as is the term now used. The biological professors are agitating this strongly. They say that the mass of monographic literature in their subjects has become so great that when they do get the stuff on their thesis together it takes all their time to read it—hence the need of abstracts. They are even demanding that the university librarian make them and put them on the card catalog—a truly colossal request. But they need the material, and it can be done by co-operation.

THE CONCILIIUM BIBLIOGRAPHICUM

Another visit of very great professional interest was one to the Concilium Bibliographicum at Zurich. The operations of this were stopped by the war and reorganization hindered by the death of Dr. Field. Thanks to the American National Research Bureau, however, and the funds which it secured for the purpose, the work of reorganization has

been taken up most vigorously by Dr. Kellogg for the Bureau and by the new Director, Dr. Strohl, a most competent and efficient man, trained by Dr. Field and afterwards professor in the University. Much of the accumulation of copy for printing and of unfiled cards in the cumulated catalog have been cleared away, and the huge stock arranged and analyzed, the considerable arrears have still to be made up and a new staff both bibliographical and clerical, is still to be secured and trained. It is financed for five years and will get down to business on the old lines at once. Beginning next July it will add two or three new lines. A good many of its cards are out of print and will have to be reprinted before full sets of the cards can be furnished. Experiments have been made, with very admirable results, with the Laupen methods (Manul and a new method claimed to be far better still) reducing cost of reprint two-thirds. A very significant feature of this office is the complete cumulated catalog and a very interesting possibility the hope that if these reprint methods prove as inexpensive as they promise, that we may get these cumulated catalogs in book form.

Altogether these going enterprises in bibliography, all with their attention more or less focussed on the problem of getting the bibliography of natural science well done, should be able to get results. No field is riper for some Committee on "Intellectual Co-operation" to secure substantial results by getting the various enterprises together to divide up the field and avoid wasteful duplication of effort. The size of the problem is indicated by the fact that the International Catalog figures an amount of £15,000 a year for printing. One cannot help wondering whether they and the bibliographical world in general will not be forced to use less expensive means, printing directly from typewritten cards by photographic methods. In the case of science cards, however, where the demand ought to reach a thousand copies, printing may be the best in any event.

Among American Librarians who registered at the American Library in Paris during the summer months are: Beatrice C. Wilcox, New York, Mary S. Saxe, Westmount, Canada, Edith Guerrier, Boston, Corabel Bien, University of Oregon, Metta Loomis, Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, Mary Melcher and Eliza Lamb, University of Chicago, Theodore W. Koch, Northwestern University, Grace Berger, Kansas City, (Mrs.) Frances B. Linn, Santa Barbara, (Mrs.) Caroline Engstfeld, Birmingham, Miss Jordan of Minneapolis, Edith Eastman, East Cleveland, and Ernest C. Richardson, Princeton University.

David Copperfield's Library*

WHEN in Florence last March, I heard from New York that there was to be a meeting of English librarians in London, on April 26, when a gift of books from the

French Republic would be formally presented by its ambassador to David Copperfield's Library at 13 Johnson Street, Somers Town.

More than two years ago, the Rev. J. Brett Langstaff, a Harvard and Oxford graduate, of Scottish parentage but American-born, was working in a settlement at Magdalen College House in London. In his walks he discovered a house where Charles Dickens had lived in his boyhood, and formed the idea of establishing a children's library there, "a happy book world for boys and girls," to "make up for the miserable times Dickens had when as a lad of thirteen he lodged there, because his



EUSTACE, "THE CHILD WHO, HAVING READ EVERY VOLUME IN DAVID COPPERFIELD'S LIBRARY, ASKS FOR MORE." DRAWN BY H. M. BATEMAN FOR "NOT SO BAD AS WE SEEM," THE SOUVENIR PROGRAM OF THE PERFORMANCE GIVEN ON BEHALF OF THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

father. . . . was most of the time in a debtor's prison."

A circular printed a few months later was endorsed by his son, Henry Fielding Dickens, Barrie, Galsworthy, Kenneth Grahame and others. Money was raised by the gift from actors of a Dickens birthday matinee, arranged by Ben Greet, the house was given and its reconstruction begun. Bulwer-Lytton's comedy, "Not So Bad as We Seem," which had been acted seventy years before by Charles Dickens and his friends, including Douglas Jerrold, John Forster, Mark Lemon, Westland Marston, R. H. Horne, Charles Knight, Wilkie Collins and John

Tenniel was acted in November, 1920, by an equally distinguished cast, some of whom were Henry Fielding Dickens, W. L. George, Pett Ridge, Sir Gilbert Parker, Justin McCarthy, Compton Mackenzie, Major Beith ("Ian Hay"), E. Temple Thurston, Miss Rebecca West and Mrs. Asquith. The program was in a book edited by Owen Seaman, with an attractive paper cover in three colors, and short articles and poems by most of the authors mentioned above, besides Stephen Leacock, Hugh Walpole and others, with sketches of Dickens characters by well-known artists, and extracts from letters by John Sargent, Kate Douglas Wiggin, Louis N. Parker, Bernard Shaw, Lady Astor, Laurence Binyon, G. K. Chesterton, Lord Dunsany, John Galsworthy, and Rudyard Kipling, wishing success or enclosing money, or both.

The house was put in repair and the library opened with a gift of children's books from American publishers, and six drawings in color by Leslie Brooke, from the staff of the New York Public Library, chosen by Miss Marie Shedlock. Since then, Mr. Langstaff has given his services as librarian, but comes back to this country in November.

On April 26, I had the happiness of seeing David Copperfield's Library. I had the address, 13 Johnson Street, Somers Town, but had not an idea where it was. The taxi-driver, however, went straight to it, passing Madame Tussaud's, St. Pancras Church, and the Euston Station, and turning into a street of small houses, with those near and opposite Number 13 as brave in flags as Mrs. Cratchit and Belinda were in ribbons on Christmas Day. On the house is a modest plate with the information that Charles Dickens lived there when a boy. The door is level with the sidewalk, and an iron railing on each side protects the windows. I rang, was admitted and introduced myself to Mr. Langstaff, who was so busy, pounding away at a typewriter, that after I had seen the pleasant library room, with Leslie Brooke's pictures on the light yellow walls, I told him that I would take a walk and be at the Town Hall at three. The room has tables and chairs of the right height for growing boys and girls, a fire place, and a friendly and homelike look. A full set of Dickens is on a shelf by itself, a little higher than the low bookcases around the walls, where new, fresh books are ranged in excellent order. They were at that time for room use only, but Mr. Langstaff's intention has always been to have them circulated as soon as a trained librarian can be employed.

* The David Copperfield was formally presented to the Borough of St. Pancras toward the end of October.

At three o'clock, I went to the Town Hall, where His Worship the Mayor of St. Pancras and the corporation hold their meetings. Only a few men and women were there at first, but others came in, till the hall was more than half filled. We waited for the exercises of the afternoon to begin, but nothing happened for half an hour, when the French ambassador appeared, escorted by the Mayor in a business suit with a chain of great gold medallions, each as large as a twenty-dollar gold piece. He spoke a few well chosen words of greeting, and introduced the Ambassador, le Comte de Saint-Aulaire, who spoke at first in English, and ended in French so clear and distinct that anyone near him could follow every word. The French Government had sent four hundred francs' worth of books, which Mr. Langstaff invited us to see in the Library after the meeting. A member of the Library Assistants' Association spoke. Pett Ridge, the novelist, who sat next to me had introduced himself and his neighbor on the other side, Alfred Noyes. Both were among the speakers of the afternoon, Mr. Ridge telling of Somers Town from the days of the French Revolution when families of émigrés lived there, down to the present time, when "there has come an air of prosperity which was once absent." Alfred Noyes read a poem that he had written as an Epilogue to "Not so Bad as We Seem," of a boy creeping to a garret, finding "a book of magic, and the wizard name, Defoe," and

sitting there, "A small boy, reading in a garret, A great king, seated on a throne," Long afterward, going from his grave in the Abbey to the house, the boy saw thru the window a harbor of ships, every one manned with a crew of urchins in search of adventure, with "skippers new and old," the Pathfinder, Mark Twain, "a lean Samoan Scot, named Robert Louis," "Defoe, still dreaming of his island" and "wings of the Never-never land." He wondered who the harbor-master could be, whose bright lights were shining as they never shone for him, climbed to the little room, groped for him and "saw him, stiller than a stone, A small boy, reading in a garret, A great king, seated on a throne."

After "Bob Sawyer's Party" had been recited, the meeting adjourned for tea, and then everyone went to the Library, filling the small rooms. Mr. Langstaff's only assistants have been neighborhood boys, the Warder of the Keys, the Warder of the Door, and the Warder of the Dungeon, which is a bright and pleasant room on the ground-floor, with colored pictures on the walls. The Warder's business is to entertain little children while their older brothers and sisters read comfortably upstairs. The older boys—possibly the girls—wear in library hours blue smocks like artists' over their clothes, Mr. Langstaff preferring clean-covered children to covered books.

The French books, illustrated Jules Verne's and others, were lying on the library tables waiting to be looked at and admired. They are a noble gift to the Library.

Most of the guests went up the narrow stairs to the bare little attic where Charles Dickens read. The house was full to overflowing, and the happy spirit of the Library was reflected in all the faces. It is not hard to fancy shadow forms sitting at the tables after the house is closed for the night, Tiny Tim, Little Nell, the Four Kenwigses, Jenny Wren, Tilly Slowboy, Peepy Jellyby, Pip, Oliver Twist, Mary Ann, the Marchioness and the Nubbles children, with the Fat boy and Young Bailey looking on in an indulgent and grown-up manner.

The London *Times* of September 13th says: "The presentation of what is called 'David Copperfield's Library' to the Borough of St. Pancras will soon be made. The ceremony will be held at the Mansion House under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. The library is to be kept at 13 Johnson Street, Somers Town, which is the only one remaining of the several houses in which Charles Dickens spent his boyhood. It is to be a free library for children, a type that is popular in America. A sum of £20,000 is required to equip and endow the library."

CAROLINE M. HEWINS.



NO. 13 JOHNSON STREET, SOMERS TOWN, THE BOYHOOD HOME OF CHARLES DICKENS. THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY IS ON THE SECOND STORY.

Librarians' Pensions in New York

THE 1921 report to the Trustees Section of the A. L. A. on the subject of retirement systems pointed out that in a number of states, including New York, the state librarians come under pension laws as employees of the state. Altho this applied to all librarians in the state service it was at that time limited to state employees. This year (as already reported in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*) the New York law was so amended as to extend the system to all county and city employees. It forbids the creation of any other new retirement system by any county or city. It is still a state system managed by the State Comptroller and under supervision of the State Insurance Department. It is a form of insurance based in part on contributions by the beneficiaries and supported and stimulated by substantial subsidies from the state, counties and cities. It is carefully worked out and pronounced actuarially sound by experts. It is among the most liberal, if not the most liberal system, ever established by any state.

Before it becomes effective in a county the county supervisors must approve it. In the case of a city it must be approved by the common council and the board of estimate. A number of counties and cities have already adopted it and many employees from different departments have become members.

Each member is required to contribute a certain percentage of his salary, which is deducted on the monthly payroll and forwarded to the State Comptroller. This percentage varies according to age and occupation from three to eight per cent, usually about six. These contributions together with those made by the city, the county and the state constitute the retirement fund.

The system provides for regular service retirement, disability retirement and discontinued service retirement. Service retirement is optional at sixty and compulsory at seventy. The allowance under service retirement consists of a pension and annuity which together provide a total of one-seventieth of the final average salary (average for the last five years) multiplied by the number of years of service rendered as a member of the system. This amounts to one-half of the final salary for the employee who serves thirty-five years.

Disability retirement is provided for employees mentally or physically incapacitated for duty after fifteen years of service. The allowance under these conditions is somewhat smaller but not less than twenty-five per cent of the final salary.

The discontinued service provision is for those whose position is abolished or who are otherwise thrown out of service thru no fault of their own after twenty years of service. They may receive an allowance equal to the then present value of a retirement allowance beginning at age sixty.

An important feature is the return of contributions when an employee withdraws from service before attaining retirement conditions. His accumulated contributions with four per cent compound interest are payable on demand. Provision is also made for his return to service.

On retirement employees have various options with regard to the manner in which their pension shall be paid, whether to themselves, to their heirs or to their assignees.

Membership in the system is optional with all employees in the service June 30, 1922. With all later appointees it is compulsory.

Prior service allowance is one of the most liberal features of the law. This gives credit to present employees for past service to June 30, 1922, provided they join before June 30, 1923. No contribution is required of present employees in order to receive credit for this past service.

The time limit thus set for joining makes it very important that the system should be adopted before the middle of next year. It therefore behooves employees to exert themselves to secure its adoption by the local authorities. Delay until after that date will mean tremendous loss to present employees, possibly amounting even in individual cases to many thousands of dollars. This possible loss makes responsibility for the delay a serious one first for local officials who fail to register as soon as the officials have adopted the system.

It has been approved (October 17) by the following counties: Essex, Hamilton, Monroe, Onondaga, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Steuben, Washington; and by the following cities: Newburgh, New Rochelle, Rochester, Schenectady, Watervliet, Yonkers.

Here is an illustration of what the loss by delay may mean to a librarian. Suppose she is fifty years old and has had twenty years' service. If she joins now and retires in fifteen years at sixty-five, when her salary is \$2800, her retirement allowance will be 35-70 or one-half of \$2800, which is \$1400. If she loses the twenty years prior service allowance, her pension will be 15-70 of \$2800, or \$600, a loss of \$800 a year, for the rest of her life.

Full information can be found in two pam-

phlets, which may be obtained of the State Comptroller at Albany. One gives the text of the law, the other a brief outline of the system together with numerous questions and answers in regard to it.

WILLIAM F. YUST, *Librarian*,
Rochester (N. Y.) Public Library.

Bargains

WHY pass a bargain by, especially when you must leap your own doorstep to do so?

There are still some librarians reported as paying thirty shillings plus postage or commission, that is, well over seven dollars at present, for *Blackwood's Magazine*, or *The Edinburgh Review*, or *The Quarterly Review*, tho each can be had from New York delivered for five dollars any two for nine dollars and fifty cents, or all three for thirteen dollars and fifty cents.

Similarly, *The Nineteenth Century*, forty-eight shillings each, in England, can be gotten here for seven dollars apiece, thirteen dollars and fifty cents for two, or twenty dollars for the three.

There is no snake in the grass either. It is the genuine English originals, not reprints, that are furnished, and an American firm old at the business maintains the service. The trick is this: The text is imported in sheets and the covers then attached carry American advertising. A bit of enterprise for which the Leonard

Scott Publication Company merits all praise. May its tribe increase.

And here is a good place to point out the marked contrast between the University of Chicago Press' handling of thirteen Cambridge University Press Journals and The Macmillan Company's handling of Cambridge University Press books. The former lists at twenty to twenty-five cents a shilling; the latter, at nearly forty. These journals are, *Annals of Applied Biology*, *Annals of Botany*, *Annals of Biochemistry*, *Biometrika*, *British Journal of Psychology*, *Journal of Agricultural Science*, *Journal of Anatomy*, *Journal of Ecology*, *Journal of Genetics*, *Journal of Hygiene*, *Journal of Physiology*, *Modern Language Review*, and *Parasitology*. It is generally not unprofitable to order Cambridge periodicals from Chicago. It is not known ever to fail of being unprofitable to buy Cambridge books from Macmillan shelves in this country. And vet agents are always asserting that there is no money in periodicals.

All which keeps a white light beating on the copyright question.

M. LLEWELLYN RANEY, *Chairman*

C. L. CANNON*

A. D. DICKINSON

H. C. WELLMAN

PURD B. WRIGHT

A. L. A. Committee on Book Buying.

* Mr. Cannon, tho a member of this Committee, wishes to be recorded as not in full approval with everything in this Bulletin.

Special Pictures for Colored Children

AT the Negro Public Library, Nashville (Tenn.), we find our children always interested in looking at negro pictures and especially pictures of negro children—almost an unknown quantity in their text books. Accordingly we have had snapshots taken of our story hour and of groups in the children's room and have made of these Children's Book Week postals. We have also gathered larger pictures of all races of children, pasted them upon cardboard with appropriate lettering, and used them as a supplement to the official Children's Book Week poster on the bulletin board. In recognizing familiar faces the children see the possibilities of their group. Duplicates of the average kodak picture costing about five cents have had appropriate slogans printed by hand upon the mounts and these make very effective and

inexpensive postals. Some of the posters placed in business houses have proved to have strong appeal to parents.

MARIA M. HADLEY, *Librarian*.



IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM, NASHVILLE NEGRO LIBRARY

Noblesse Oblige in 1923

I CALL upon the nobility of the library associations, the president and past-presidents of the A. L. A. and of the S. L. A., of the state, law and the college associations and groups one and all, beginning now, to think steadfastly of the next conference, and determine each, as his own responsibility, to help to make it a model for all conferences; that the librarians in fellowship may lead in the art of coming together for the good of all concerned.

The Detroit Conference meant much to me; and it was a very good sign when Miss Rankin, the new President of the Special Libraries Association began its last session on the program to make preparations for 1923 and to emphasize the need of having the Association work thru-out the year, so that the annual meeting will summarize and clinch what has been going on for many months.

By way of suggesting one definite subject to consider, let me say that three of the A. L. A. and one of the S. L. A. delegates informed me that they lacked introduction and felt, as it were, not in the game (and am I not safe in asserting that there were hundreds of others that felt the same way). Such failure to feel one's self a part of the conference was not peculiar to Detroit, but characteristic of all the larger conferences I have attended (upwards of fifteen) in the past twenty years. The difficulty lies, I believe, in so little attention on the part of the management to what may be called the amenities of the meeting. Such omission results, of course, from the management feeling so much the responsibilities for the obviously important features, that it assumes the less obvious features are being attended to by others. Others there are in plenty who would attend to these details, if properly instructed: and I believe that to get them instructed and to get the necessary number of volunteers, is merely a matter of taking time by the forelock and giving due attention to these lesser matters before the rush is on.

It seems to me there is an unconscious inner circle of the A. L. A. and a somewhat conscious inner circle of the S. L. A., in which latter circle I include myself. If we would democratize the conference and do away with such almost inevitable cliques we need to spread responsibilities among the many and to begin on this well before the first of the year. We don't want any inner circle, but we can hardly escape it without serious effort, without what I would call "prayer and fasting."

A second matter for consideration and the

subject of complaint year in and year out—as probably with many other conferences also—is the change of time and place of meetings, without due notification. This confronted the Information Committee at Detroit and, on inquiry, I find it was a very great trouble for the Information Committee of the National Educational Association, which met the first week of July in Boston, when the registration was about 10,000. It seems simple enough to tell the Information Committee of changes in time and place and have these posted on the bulletin board to which the Committee can direct attention. It ought to be simple enough to get the delegates into the habit of inquiring of this Information Committee, and simple also to put in prominent letters on the general program the advice to keep in touch with the Information Headquarters; but apparently it is not easy to think seriously of these things long enough before the conference to have them remembered at the critical moment.

As a step that should make conservative librarians take note, I venture to suggest that for 1923 the title be

"FEDERATED LIBRARY CONVENTION"

Being:

The Forty-fifth Annual Conference of the American Library Association,
The Twenty-sixth of the National Association of State Libraries,
The Eighteenth of the American Association of Law Libraries,
The Fourteenth of the Special Libraries Association,
The Fourth of the Library Workers Association.

Under such title, if the sessions are listed without mention of association or group name, then the delegates will not say "We don't belong here."

The Secretary and the Central Office can, of course, do very much in seeing this betterment thru, provided the initiation and the morale are furnished by the nobility.

GEORGE WINTHROP LEE.

Some Children's Book Lists

THIS list makes no attempt at completeness and does not include recognized bibliographies of children's books such as the H. W. Wilson Standard Catalog and the Pittsburgh Library Catalogue of Children's Books. The aim of the compiler is to bring out shorter lists of children's books on a variety of subjects and

- representing libraries, schools, book-shops and other agencies working in the interests of children.
- Illustrated Editions of Children's Books, a selected list. 1915. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.
- Favorite Books of Well-known People when they were Boys and Girls. 1918. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.
- Twenty-Five Books for a Country School, selected by vote of the American Library Association and National Educational Association. 1922. H. R. Hunting Co., Inc., Springfield, Mass.
- Books for Boys and Girls, a selected list, compiled by Caroline H. Hewins. 1916. American Library Association.
- Graded List of Books for Children, prepared by the Elementary School Library Committee of the National Education Association. 1922. American Library Association.
- Books to grow on, an experimental intermediate list selected from the Open Shelf Room. 1916. Buffalo Public Library.
- English Reading Lists, compiled by the Department of English, Haaran High School. 1921. Hubert and Collister St., New York City.
- The Hartford Reading Lists, prepared under the direction of Katherine S. Hazeltine of the English Department, Hartford Public High School, William E. Buckley of the English and History Departments, and Anna L. Bates, the School Librarian. 1922. Henry Holt & Co.
- Two Lists of Books for Children—Some First Books: Some Later Books In Roads to Childhood by Annie Carroll Moore. 1920. G. H. Doran.
- Books for Vacation Reading, compiled by the Lincoln School of Teachers' College. Practically all these books have been selected and most of them annotated by the pupils in the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth grades. 1919. The Lincoln School of Teachers' College. New York City.
- Science of Technology, books for the High School Library, compiled by Edith Erskine. 1919. Chicago Public Library.
- Heroism, a reading list for boys and girls. 1914. The New York Public Library.
- Out-of-Door Books, a list of specially readable books for young people in high school or college, compiled by Marion Horton. 1918. Bookshop for Boys and Girls. 264 Boylston St., Boston.
- Reference Reading for Girl Scouts. In Scouting for Girls, Official Handbook of the Girl Scouts. 1920. Girl Scouts, Inc. 189 Lexington Ave., N. Y. C.
- The Book Shelf for Boys and Girls, selected and annotated by Clara W. Hunt, Franklin K. Mathiews and Ruth G. Hopkins. 1922. R. R. Bowker Co. 62 West 45th St., New York City.
- A List of Books for Boys and Girls suggested for Purchase, offered by Marian Cutter of the Children's Book Shop, compiled by Jacqueline Overton. 1921. 5 West 47th St., New York City.
- Books for Boys and Girls, a suggestive Purchase List, compiled by B. E. Mahoney. Revised 1917. The Bookshop for Boys and Girls. 264 Boylston St., Boston.
- Stories to Tell to Children, a selected list with stories and poems for holiday programs. 1918. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.
- A Graded List of Stories and Poems for Reading Aloud, compiled by Harriet E. Hassler. 1915. New York Public Library.
- Favorite Stories of Library Reading Clubs. 1915. New York Public Library.
- An Historical Reading List, compiled by Leonore St. John Power for "The Story of Mankind" by Hendrik Willem van Loon. 1921. American Library Association.
- Lists of Stories and Programs for Story Hours, edited by Effie L. Power. 1915. H. W. Wilson Co. New York City.
- Plays for Children, an annotated index by Alice I. Hazeltine. 1921. American Library Association.
- Plays for Children, a selected list compiled by Kate Oglebay for the New York Drama League and the Inter-Theatre Arts, Inc. 1922. H. W. Wilson Co., New York City.
- Suggestions for a Christmas Program, prepared by the Drama Department, Community Service Inc. 315 Fourth Ave., N. Y. C. 1920. 25 cents.
- A Graded List of Pantomime for all amateur production, with an historical article on the pantomime by Elizabeth Hanley, prepared by the Drama Department, Community Service Inc. 1920.
- A List of Pageants, Masques and Festivals, prepared by the Drama Department, Community Service Inc. 1920.

LEONORE ST. JOHN POWER, *Librarian.*
Central Children's Room,
New York Public Library.

A Guide to the Use of Libraries

Hutchins, Margaret. Alice Sarah Johnson and Margaret Stuart Williams. Guide to the use of libraries; a manual for college and university students. 2d ed. H. W. Wilson Co., 1922.

AS the preface states, this book is a development of a course in reference work for freshmen and sophomores at the University of Illinois. All three of its authors are or have been in charge of sections of successive classes taking this course. The present edition is an enlarged and generalized treatment of the first edition. This in turn was frankly a class manual based on the organization of the University of Illinois Library.

The material of both editions has been tested by years of classroom use. Its statements are accurate. It is well balanced and the distinction between important principles and non-essentials is well drawn. The illustrative examples are well selected and the student who successfully completes a course based on this book as a text should feel at home in the reference department of any good college, university or public library.

In a recent review Brander Matthew says "At a luncheon attended by half a dozen men of letters, I propounded the theory that the first writer who uses a situation deserves credit as its inventor; the second is a plagiarist; the third is merely lacking in originality and the fourth is only drawing from a common stock."

The field of reference work as treated in library schools, library training classes and library periodicals has been well-defined so long that any treatise on the subject is practically forced to get into the fourth class and to draw

from a more or less common stock. Experienced teachers of library methods and reference librarians will find little that is novel in this work. They will find a great quantity of well-known facts and principles well arranged and interestingly presented. The novice will find much that is new to him but little that should not be a part of his intellectual stock in trade.

The book is so free from non-essentials that it is at times a little hard to use without an instructor to enlarge upon the text and to furnish additional illustrative examples. A good example of this is found in the admirably condensed chapter on the general characteristics of reference books. The notes on the individual books given as examples in the various chapters almost always successfully avoid a brevity that is misleading and a fullness that makes actual examination superfluous for the indolent but quick-witted student. Even here an instructor will sometimes be needed for adequate understanding. For instance, the note on Day's "Col-lacon" (par. 251) does not mention two major weaknesses of that plethoric collection: failure to give definite sources of quotations and the fact that the work is out of print and hard to obtain. In the note on Roget's "Thesaurus," attention might be called to the wide use of this work in newspaper offices and to the fact that it is obtainable in several editions. In general the books selected for annotation are those no respectable library wants to be without so that the student really should get a good general background for work nearly anywhere in the United States where libraries flourish. The excellent collection of the University of Illinois (tho often subconsciously in the background) is not over-emphasized in the selection.

The general note on Geography (par. 143) does not mention the excellent maps in most general encyclopedias and directories, altho they are casually mentioned in the chapter on encyclopedias. I recall my own delight some years ago in discovering that Ayer's Newspaper Annual is a very serviceable office atlas and gazetteer. This is one of the few places in which the various sections are not well correlated and in which the interrelations of varied types of reference books are not indicated. The student is repeatedly advised to use the general shelves of the library for books giving full treatment of the subjects under consideration. At times there is a dash of humor. The statement is made that "Who's Who gives very concise biographical information about prominent living Englishmen," while Who's Who in America includes "brief biographical facts concerning noteworthy living people of the United States." Those who have watched the rapidly increasing

corpulence of the latter volume will appreciate the fine distinction in synonyms.

The chapters on general library organization are very good. Sometimes (as in the very detailed chapters on the card catalog) hardly enough mention is made of the many important departures from the arrangement here outlined. In many very good college and university libraries as well as in many public libraries a student would find it hard to reconcile the precept of the text and the practice of the library. In the chapter on classification it would be profitable to include a few more of the general subjects in the outlines on the three classifications (e.g. Psychology in the E. C.). It is a little questionable whether the statement, that the use of the Library of Congress system "is much less general than that of the classifications mentioned" gives quite the right impression of its actual influence on the classification of the large libraries of the country.

The book has a distinct purpose and a definite scope. It carries out its purpose as a class manual consistently and confines itself closely to its scope. It is based on wide knowledge of university reference work and of the abilities and limitations of college students. It can be used to advantage, with slight modifications, in any institution of collegiate rank with even a respectable working library. The course on which it is based is one of the oldest of its kind still in successful operation and this course has very appreciably increased the intelligent use of the University of Illinois Library. Its use elsewhere should mean more intelligent self-service by students and a decided saving of time to the library staff who must otherwise perforce help students in ways in which they ought to help themselves. The authors have done a real service to college and university libraries in general and, thru them, to the institutions they serve.

FRANK K. WALTER, *Librarian,*
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Public Open Shelf Library for Paris

A baraque, similar to those established in devastated regions by the Committee for Devastated France under the direction of Miss Jessie Carson, formerly of the New York Public Library, was opened on October 15th in the Belleville section of Paris. The book stock of the Municipal Library of that arrondissement has been transferred to the baraque, which will be run on the principle of an American open shelf library, under the direction of Mlle. Lydie Duproix, who received her training at the Library School of the New York Public Library last year.

The A. L. A. Hospital Library Exhibit at Atlantic City

A HOSPITAL library service exhibit was a successful feature of the recent convention of the American Hospital Association at Atlantic City. This exhibit was assembled originally under Dr. Bostwick's supervision for the American Medical Association's meeting last spring in St. Louis. At Atlantic City members of the staff of the Free Library (at Miss Askew's request) set up and were in daily attendance at the exhibit. The poster exhibit sent by the A. L. A. was extremely interesting. The Atlantic City Public Library sent up a collection of books, representative of the type of books to be used in hospitals. As the book wagon was lost in transportation, a tea wagon was used, and altho not the regulation means of delivery aroused enthusiasm by its possibilities.

The exhibit was well attended. Doctors showed exceeding interest in it. Everyone spoke in the highest terms of the therapeutic value of the service.

Numerous questions were asked of which the following are typical: What system of

charging could be used? Will the public cooperate? In case of contagion, what is done with the books? Are technical books necessary? Should current fiction be supplied? Is a trained librarian necessary?

The questions were answered as fully as possible, and many persons especially interested were referred to Secretary Milam for further information.



THE A. L. A. HOSPITAL LIBRARY EXHIBIT, SHOWING THE REGULATION BOOK TRUCK

The A. L. A. at the Prison Association and American Legion Meeting

THE American Library Association was represented at the American Prison Association meeting in Detroit on October 13 and 14 by Secretary Carl H. Milam. He spoke at the meeting of the prison chaplains. Rev. W. S. Bassett of the New Hampshire State Prison also spoke on prison libraries. Dr. Hastings H. Hart, president of the American Prison Association, had for distribution a list of books on prison management and the Detroit Public Library distributed an attractively printed list on "Prison Reform." Much discussion followed the two talks on prison libraries. The questions raised had to do with such subjects as the elimination of undesirable books received as gifts, the necessity of a regular appropriation, how to bring newly acquired books to the attention of the inmates, the selection of books for the prison library.

The chaplains expressed the hope that the chairman of the A. L. A. Institutional Libraries Committee might be present next year and might make an exhibit of books found most useful in prison libraries.

The Association was represented at the American Legion Auxiliary meeting in New Orleans, October 16-20, by Sarah C. N. Bogle, Assistant Secretary. Miss Bogle briefly addressed the first general session of the Auxiliary, and also met with the organization committee and discussed the opportunity open to the Auxiliary to further library service to the disabled men, the development and extension library facilities for all ex-service men, and what could be done by chapters and individual members of the Auxiliary in the way of promoting library progress.

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ALTHO Uncle Sam has not joined the great family of fifty-one nations, known as the League, that is no reason why the United States should not participate in the lesser international organizations, many of them existing before the war, and others the direct outcome of the war, or established by the League itself. Most of these, prior to the war, had their seat at Brussels or Berne, and formed a network of international comity, which it was fondly hoped would help to prevent war. Those who went from the library and bibliographical conferences at Brussels in 1910, to the field of Waterloo, were pleased at the thought that French and Belgians, enemies in 1815, were planning to celebrate in 1915 the hundred years of peace. That this proved an iridescent dream should not discourage the revival of old and the formation of new links in world brotherhood, which of all things the world of today needs. Professor Richardson elsewhere gives an interesting summary of several of these international movements, in which the library profession should be interested, and it is to be hoped that the A. L. A. and its members will lend heart and hand to the efforts for world reconstruction and advance which these typify.

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"HUMANIZING the A. L. A." as Mr. Ferguson puts it in his bright review of the Detroit Conference quoted on another page, is an ideal which matches up with the larger problem of humanizing the world. Just what the phrase means it is indeed difficult to say, but it points towards a desirable end, that of making the conference attractive to all members, and making the Association of vital importance to every member. Mr. Ferguson comes to the conclusion that this is largely a question of more adequate salaries, which will keep in or attract to the profession, the men and women who otherwise are tempted from it to more remunerative callings, tho these may not have the motives of social welfare that the library profession emphasizes. This is a truism, but it requires effort to make truisms come true, and the counsel that librarians should not be afraid to emphasize the importance of their work is altogether wise. As to the conferences, it is difficult to make them appeal to everybody every time, but it should be possible to make the

general sessions more inviting to all by limiting their number and making sure that speakers not only have something to say, but can say it so that it shall be heard. The Association is big, the conferences are increasingly big, and the very element of bigness makes it the more necessary that there shall be a careful selection of topics and speakers, and that what may be called "group questions" shall be relegated to "group meetings," for which a limitation of the general sessions should make room.

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STANDARDIZATION is another feature which harks back to more adequate pay as a basic necessity. The subject is to have careful discussion at the mid-winter meeting of the Council, and those who have comments, criticisms or suggestions, should not fail to respond to Mr. Walter's plea for such, that the discussion may be usefully shaped as to standardization and certification. There are two sides, as there are to most questions, and to adapt Mr. Ferguson's phrase, they should not go to the point of dehumanizing the profession by repelling from it the born librarian, who has not the advantage of library school technical education. New York State has become a sort of proving ground in respect to standardization, but, as has been pointed out, the scheme has never been fairly tried because of the lack of appropriations to carry it forward and present adequate stimulus of state aid for standardized libraries. California has made definite progress in this direction, and one good feature of our federal system is that experimentation in this State or that, benefits the whole country by affording results for comparison.

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THE question of restrictions on questionable books discussed in Mr. Feipel's second paper, is one that concerns all libraries, great or small. Every library contains some books which would be objectionable for some readers, juvenile or other, and the moment that these are advertised even by adverse criticism, they become active temptations for the salacious. One of the most objectionable of books was a cheap, paper covered volume issued a score of years ago, which flaunted on its cover, the information that the extracts which it contained.

were all from books found on the shelves of the Chicago Public Library. The board of a smaller library had before it the problem that a high class art magazine had an extraordinary circulation among the boys and girls of adolescent age, who embellished the nude figures of the illustrations and passed them along boy to girl and girl to boy, so that even

this innocent periodical had to be restricted in use. These two instances illustrate the real difficulty of the question, and suggest that no general line of policy can be recommended to all libraries. After all, common sense and careful attention to the habits of readers must remain the best guide—and this is not very specific counsel!

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON

THE October meeting of the Special Libraries Association of Boston was held in the Treadwell Library at the Massachusetts General Hospital, preceded by a supper at the Green Shutters. Notwithstanding the rain both gatherings were well attended, thirty-nine people coming early to the supper, and sixty-five to the meeting afterward.

The subject discussed was "Hospital Libraries," by eight speakers admirably fitted to cover the field. Annis L. Kinsman, librarian of the Chelsea Naval Hospital, discussed "Army and Navy Hospital Libraries: Requirement and Equipment." She read the civil service requirements for the librarian, which were high, and then spoke of the equipment, which is that turned over by the A. L. A. The navy is a good trustee, but the army has practically given up hospital libraries in the Boston district. The Bureau of Navigation supplies the Chelsea Naval Hospital with 100 books a year—a general list of fiction and non-fiction, twelve periodicals and twelve or fourteen papers. Recently the U. S. Veterans Bureau turned over to Miss Kinsman, "for value received," \$450, part of which was spent for more periodicals.

Ida M. Cannon, chief of the Social Service Department of the Massachusetts General Hospital, spoke next on "Hospital Ethics of the Librarian." She spoke of the numerous varieties of workers already participating in the activity of a hospital, and said that many people new to this work mistook the etiquette of the hospital for the ethics. She read the "Hippocratic Oath," and then mentioned as some of the salient features of the ethical code discretion, loyalty to the hospital, ability to see the other person's point of view, and hearty co-operation. Carrie L. Williams, librarian of the U. S. Veterans Hospital at Parker Hill, spoke on "Ward Work in a Hospital Library." She said the librarian had to be an essentially social being with much tact, whose object should be to get the patients interested in books. She

must realise that each patient is a special problem in himself. Marjorie Martin, librarian of the U. S. Veterans Hospital in West Roxbury, told of "Book Selection for the Mental Hospital." She said the library had the scope of a small public library, tho fiction, travel and biography were most popular. Books of adventure and detective stories are the greatest favorites, and great care must be taken to avoid admitting stories to the library with a harmful psychic influence, such as those dealing with the supernatural, with many bloody scenes, or with the insidious workings of poison. Books on physiology, psychology, and law are tabooed, and great care is taken to keep the medical books, which are of necessity kept in the library, away from the patients.

Lydia H. Jewett, librarian of the Warren Library of the Massachusetts General Hospital, founded in 1841, told of "Library Work in a General Hospital." The library serves everyone in the hospital from the superintendent to the orderlies, but is primarily for the patients. The books are arranged on the shelves for people with broken arms; there are five subjects. There is a shelf of thin, light books for people with broken arms; there are five cases of foreign books; and a collection for children. Some surgical patients stay a long time in the hospital, and there is an admirable opportunity, fully embraced by the librarian, for Americanization and education. The book truck, which carries books to the wards, was designed a few years ago, and served for a model for those in the army libraries.

Elisabeth W. Reed, librarian in the Boston City Hospital, spoke of "Library Work with Children." The library is new, and is part of the Social Service Department, financed privately. The books are primarily for entertainment, altho there are some educational ones. Each child in the library is visited once a week, and there is a self-appointed ward librarian among the children, who collects and distributes books. Some of the activities of the librarian are story-telling, distributing flowers,

lending toys to children who are too young to read, making and distributing picture puzzles, and co-operating with the hospital school-teacher. Before the beginning of the hospital library the children, especially the surgical patients, quickly became hospitalised, and their active interest was directed toward the condition of other patients. Now, however, the children have no more morbid curiosity when they leave than when they entered the hospital.

Grace W. Myers, librarian of the Treadwell Library in the Massachusetts General Hospital, spoke on the "Medical Library in a General Hospital." It is a staff library, and has an excellent collection of books on medicine and its allied subjects. The oldest medical library in the United States is in the Pennsylvania Hospital, founded in 1763, and the largest and most important is that of Johns Hopkins, but the Treadwell Library, tho founded as recently as 1859, and only half as large as Johns Hopkins, stands next to it in importance. Its first librarian was a doctor, who laid an excellent foundation. There are now 10,067 volumes and 96 periodicals, and tho financially limited, the library receives many gifts.

E. Kathleen Jones, of the Massachusetts Library Commission, was the last speaker on the program. Her subject was "Group Work in Hospitals," and she discussed the advantage of group work over "Unit Work" for hospitals which cannot afford to pay a full-time librarian. Unit work is the case where there is one librarian who gives all her time to one institution. In group work several hospitals, or other public institutions, share one librarian. In case of city hospitals the librarian will be provided by the public library, while in case of state hospitals the State Library Commission will have supervision. Public libraries all over the country have taken over the Sioux City plan where six large hospitals combined and asked the Public Library for the loan of one librarian for all of them, and, when their request was granted, they inaugurated a drive for books. The Iowa State Library Commission started a library organizer for State Institution Libraries, and Minnesota and Vermont followed Iowa, but Massachusetts is showing no progressiveness in this matter.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FIFTY-FOUR were present when the Rhode Island Library Association held its fall meeting at Westerly on Monday, October 9. Francis K. W. Drury, the chairman of the Committee on Recruiting as well as of the A. L. A. Committee on Recruiting, stated in his report that a campaign of education must be carried on, keeping the library situation

before people, arousing their interest, and enlisting their co-operation.

The act passed by the Rhode Island General Assembly in April, 1921, designed to furnish state aid to libraries, is not in accord with similar laws which the State Board of Education is expected to enforce, is difficult to administer, and does not serve the greatest need of the smaller libraries of the state. A resolution was passed by the association reviewing these facts and requesting the State Board of Education to ask the General Assembly at the session to be held in January, 1923, to amend the present law to conform with the spirit of House Bill 562, which was presented to the 1921 session of the Assembly after being endorsed by the Association, the Rhode Island Institute of Instruction, and other organizations.

Dr. Walter E. Ranger, Commissioner of Education for Rhode Island, pointed out that altho library service is educational and as indispensable for the well being of a people as the school, and if rightly conducted contributes to an intelligent citizenship, in Rhode Island the library as an educational factor is not getting its proper share of the money appropriated for such purposes. A sense of public responsibility must be developed and cultivated so that the State will see to it that every man, woman and child may secure the loan of a book.

Newcomers to the State gave short addresses. Mary V. Crenshaw, librarian of the People's Library, Newport, in discussing "From Book Chains to Automobiles," said that some library methods of the present are as binding as the book chains of the past. Reader's cards, closed shelves, and any red tape which limits readers, making it difficult to get the right book to the right person at the right time, are modern chains which must be cut. A bookwagon is not only a vision of the future but a thoroly practical adjunct of to-day. Irene Earll, librarian of the Rhode Island College of Education, in her address on the librarian as a social force, declared that librarians have in their hands every weapon for good in the community. There should be perfect co-operation between all elements in the State. Library associations must stand back of the libraries so that they may reach out to every individual until he becomes interested and a borrower from some library.

"The Modern Public Librarian, Bibliophile or Clerk?" was the subject of an address by Clarence E. Sherman, assistant librarian of the Providence Public Library. In the past the librarian's work was a simple one, with inter-

est centered in the local community, while to-day it is vastly more complex. Intensive study must be given up for extensive interests. In order that librarians may be properly equipped for their tasks, there should be frequent discussions of books in staff meetings, and library time should be allowed for reading. The librarian of to-day has developed into a semi-business type of person. The librarian of the future should combine the friendly virtues of the literary type with the business-like type.

KENTUCKY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BEREA was the meeting place of the Kentucky Library Association for its annual convention held from October 12 to 14. Professor James Watt Paine, of Berea College, made the address of welcome, Mrs. A. S. Gardner, of Horse Cave, responding. The president of the Association, Euphemia K. Corwin, librarian of Berea College, spoke on the adaptation of library resources to rural life. In the evening John Franklin Smith, professor of rural social science at the College, spoke on "The Librarian and the Country Child." It is in the power of the librarian to better economic conditions and to improve health conditions, he said. Among the books circulated in rural communities should be plenty of stories of real people who have "done things," and books that will teach children to love and enjoy nature. Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, chose for her topic "Frigates of the Mind" as symbolical of books—books the purveyors of information. She spoke of the necessity of the librarian's having a broad outlook upon life, knowledge of the contents of books of varying professions, as law and medicine, and knowledge of the people of the community and the relation of books to the people.

"Impress of Libraries on Kentucky Rural Life" was the topic of the next day's sessions. Fannie C. Rawson outlined what the State Library Commission has accomplished. Traveling libraries in Jefferson County were described by Jennie O. Cochran of Louisville, and Mrs. H. C. Henderson of Georgetown discussed traveling libraries in Scott county. In a talk on the clubwoman in library work, Mrs. W. H. Coffman instanced the fine work of Georgetown clubwomen had done in organizing the Scott county library. "County and School Contests" was the subject of a talk by Everett Lee Dix, supervisor of social service training at Berea College. He spoke of the importance of co-ordination so that the work of one may fit in with the work of others, and explained the

method of holding contests in ten counties in eastern Kentucky.

Florence Dillard was the leader at the round table discussion of the large public, school and college libraries. Discussion on methods and results of advertising the library was led by Cora Beatty and George T. Settle of Louisville; dealers' discounts and the high cost of books, by Margaret King, University of Kentucky, Lexington; satisfactory book binding and binders, by Anne M. Spear, of Covington; National Book Week, by Miss Waller, University of Kentucky; and "Sifting the Wheat from the Chaff in Current Fiction," by Jennie M. Flexner of Louisville. Miss Rawson was the leader at the round table for small libraries, which discussed primarily circulation problems.

On Saturday morning Mrs. F. H. Ridgway, assistant librarian of Berea College, told of her work with the book wagon which takes books to the people in their mountain homes. Having very limited funds for book purchase she has used many pamphlets, bulletins, and inexpensive books. Mounted pictures are circulated and afford much pleasure in many pictureless homes. She spoke of the importance of having books that reveal beauty and that make farm life attractive.

The association had the pleasure of a trip along the Dixie Highway into the beautiful hills surrounding Berea including many spots of historic interest. Dr. Hutchins, president of Berea College also entertained at his home. An interesting motion picture illustrated the life of a typical mountain boy and girl and showed what Berea College means to the mountain people.

Officers were elected for the coming year are: President, Mrs. A. S. Gardner, Scottsville; first vice-president, Margaret I. King, University of Kentucky, Lexington; second vice-president, Elizabeth Tunis, Danville; secretary-treasurer, Mary Robert Loyd, Winchester.

HARRIET BOSWELL, Secretary.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

REPORTS of progress and conditions in Wisconsin county libraries, discussion of the policy of school library management in the relations of schools and libraries, and reviews of notable new books were important features of the thirty-first annual meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association held at the Milwaukee Public Library October 9 and 10, with President Matthew S. Dudgeon, librarian, in the chair.

COUNTY LIBRARY PROGRESS

The round table on county library progress was conducted by Clarence B. Lester and Harriet Long. Rusk, Marathon, Langlade, and Milwaukee Counties are now appropriating money

for library service. Mr. Lester's recommendations may be summarized: (1) The demand for county library service should come from the rural section of the county. (2) Plans for the service should be made according to local situation. (3) The idea may be developed with small groups first. These will carry the idea to others. Miss Long stressed the idea of reading rooms with magazines and reference books as part of the county plan, each community to assume responsibility for such room, which can later be taken over by the county.

Winnebago County, said Miss Van Eman, has a population of 63,000, and three cities. Oshkosh, Neenah, Menasha. A population of 16,300 has no city service. It is trying to establish traveling libraries in existing branches. The enterprise was begun in 1902. There are three thousand five hundred books in fifty-four collections. Fifty cents per capita is the minimum appropriation asked. Racine County, said Miss Hannum, has a population outside Racine of 20,000. Nearly nine hundred county borrowers receive free service. A book wagon is used. A reading room will be part of the county system. Wausau is the only city in Marathon County, said Miss Lansing. It has always given free service to the county. Appropriations have ranged from \$200 to \$500. Federated clubs and teachers are handling collections of books. The population of Portage County outside Stevens Point is 19,000, said Miss Anderson. City and county board are willing to establish county service. An appropriation of \$7,500 is expected this fall. Brown County expects an appropriation equal to one-sixth that of Green Bay and De Pere, Miss Martin reported. The county wants representation on the library board. Green Bay has three-fifths of the county population. Langlade County, Miss Rechevyl said, has an appropriation of \$1,500. There are no fixed collections. Books are sent by parcel post. Stations are in postoffices and school buildings. Miss Andrews said that Marinette County has been trying for the past four years to get a book wagon. Each of two hundred schools is to give an entertainment, the proceeds of which will go to the fund. The county will then assume the care of the book wagon. Fond du Lac, said Miss Janes, has been giving free service to the county since 1915. There are seven hundred borrowers. The Milwaukee plan was considered there and shelved, but it will be taken up again.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS

The discussion on the policy of school library management in the relations of schools and libraries was opened by Miss Aldrich, who

said that the situation has been handled usually by one of the following methods: (1) The establishment of a school library entirely under the control of the local public library. (2) A school library under the joint control of school board and public library. (3) A school library entirely under the control of the school management. As to which method is adopted the source of funds is usually the determining factor. The school library system of Detroit was cited as approaching the ideal as fast as possible. A school library is being installed in every school building, with a teacher librarian in charge, who is a normal graduate with at least a short course in library science. This is maintained by the school board. In addition, the public librarian maintains a school department sending out loan collections to the school.

Miss Benst, of La Crosse, discussed the administration of the school library entirely under school management. She believed that efficiency would be promoted by separate maintenance. This system would save the library the cost of furnishing books to teachers not making the best use of them, avoid the danger of depleting the central collection, and obviate the friction resulting from the entrance of one institution into the territory of another. Miss Janes, of Fond du Lac, discussed the school library under control of the local public library. As the high school library is mainly a reference library, other books can be requisitioned from the public library, and duplication can be avoided. As school hours and school year are shorter than those of the public library, the school librarian can put in her spare time at the public library, which broadens her field of vision. All orders, bills, book-keeping for the school library can be attended to at the public library. Supplies needed in a hurry can be borrowed from the main library if necessary.

During the discussion Miss Heath stated that each teacher should know the bibliography of her subject well enough to choose her books, but that the school librarian should be able to balance the demands from each department so as to form a well proportioned library. Her opinion was that the librarian was not a study room teacher, and pupils should be allowed to use library for study only when the use of reference books was necessary. Superintendent Longenecker, of Racine, told of the three junior high schools in that city with school libraries, their plans for a new senior high school with fully equipped library, all open to the public. The school board furnishes the rooms, equipment, janitor service, heat and light; the public

library, the books and a full time librarian. The plan has been successful so far.

BOOKS AND BOOK SELECTION

On Tuesday morning a roll call of libraries brought answers to the question: "What five non-fiction books have most appealed to your patrons this year?" The result of a compilation of these lists will appear in the *Bulletin*.

Mary Katharine Reely, in charge of book selection for the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, presented "Books of Distinction in the Non-Fiction of the Year." The carefully selected list of books for discussion and the skilful handling of the difficult task of evaluation and criticism under severe limitations of time combined to make this a most valuable contribution to the program. Margaret McIntosh, head of the book selection and order department of the Milwaukee Public Library, followed with an illuminating discussion of "Outstanding Fiction of the Year."

The professional program of the morning closed with a symposium on the question, "Can book selection aids be improved?" Miss Martin appealed for more promptly distributed aids to libraries in the work of selection. She believed the reviews should be more discriminating and evaluative. Samuel Ranck, Grand Rapids, stated it to be the publishers' practice to advertise and merchandise their books regionally, so that reviews in Eastern papers appear before books are on sale in Western markets. Mr. Dudgeon suggested the possibility of a weekly mimeographed list to be sent out by the Commission. The Association approved the idea of such a list, to be paid for by the libraries at the rate of five cents per week. It also expressed its feeling that the *Booklist*, the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin*, and other publications or organizations undertaking to furnish aid to libraries in the selection of books, should receive from the publishers advance review copies at the earliest possible date, and to request the Wisconsin Library Commission to investigate the matter of the supply of such copies.

Edna Ferber and Zona Gale were both present at the meeting to read from their works. Miss Ferber prefaced her readings of two short stories, "The Gay Old Dog," and "The Homely Heroine," with witty and characteristic comment.

Carl H. Milam, secretary of the A. L. A., addressed the Association on "Reaching the Public." Springfield, Ill., reaches forty per cent, Indianapolis twenty-seven per cent, and Milwaukee twenty per cent of its public. The U. S. Commissioner of Education says that sixty per cent of the American people are be-

yond reach of adequate library service. Since seventy-five per cent of those in reach do not use the libraries it follows that of over 110,000,000 people 99,000,000 are not registered borrowers. Mr. Milam suggests the study of selected typical blocks of our cities with the view of visualizing actual and potential service to each individual in the locality studied.

Samuel H. Ranck spoke on "Making the Public Conscious of the Library."* Ernest Bruncken, of Milwaukee, discussed "Reaching the Library Thru Literary Anniversaries." Senator William N. Hatton, of New London, stressed the need of education, the interpretation of our modern life in terms of the spirit, and the library's responsibility.

J. H. Puelicher, of Milwaukee, president of the American Bankers' Association, spoke on the theme, "Can the Banker Help the Librarian?" General discussion was ably led by Jessie Sprague, of Brodhead.

Affiliation with the A. L. A. was voted.

Officers for the ensuing year follow: President, Edith K. Van Eman, Oshkosh; vice-president, Gertrude Schwab, Superior; secretary, Leila Janes, Fond du Lac; treasurer, Laura Olsen, Eau Claire.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE thirtieth annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association was held in Duluth, October 2-4, with an attendance of one hundred and twenty-four members. President Alice M. Dunlap welcomed the visitors and outlined the plans for the meeting.

A roll call of libraries was responded to with the most striking features of the work during the year. The report of the Education Committee, of which Elizabeth Robinson is chairman, read by Miss Wood, told of the outline prepared for the use of those speaking on librarianship as a profession. In May and June talks were given in a number of schools and colleges and in each case, the director or principal expressed interest in having the matter presented.

School libraries are progressing, the one crying need now being lack of funds. The increasing number of calls for school librarians thruout the state is both encouraging and embarrassing, on account of the few opportunities for training librarians. The University class in library training and the various institutes held during October will serve as a beginning in this work. The two state lists recently issued for the elementary schools and the high schools, and also the new state course of study in English, will be a great aid to librarians in

* Mr. Ranck's paper will be given in a later number.

enabling them to buy from and direct their work along the lines of a standard list. The work of the Minneapolis Public Library with the schools in connection with the special instruction which is to be given is to be commended.

Meetings of school librarians have been held at the midwinter session of the A. L. A. in Chicago and at the conference in Detroit. At this last conference, the A. L. A. Council endorsed the report of the A. L. A. Committee on Education, and it has been suggested that the Minnesota Library Association also support the recommendations of this report. The striking features of the Detroit conference were discussed by those who had attended, and it was the consensus of opinion that the A. L. A. meetings would be of much greater benefit if not held in the larger cities.

The paper, "What Corporation Training Has to Teach Us," was read by Frank K. Walter. It advocated business methods in library publicity, urging the corporation methods of advertising.

Tuesday's session opened with a breakfast picnic served by the members of the Duluth library staff at the Lester Park camping grounds. The program was resumed with a report of the Standardization and Certification committee, by Miss Baldwin, chairman, who urged a better business system in library management and the establishing of standard methods thruout the state. A heated discussion followed, Miss Ahern and Mr. Walter both urging librarians to consider the circulation statistics of less importance than other things.

Miss Hickman led the round table of work with foreign born, which was participated in by Miss Campbell, who told of the treatment of foreigners in St. Paul; Miss Corteau, of St. Paul library, who spoke of the cataloging and sources of foreign books; Miss Tawney, who told of the methods of selection in the foreign book department of Minneapolis of which Miss Nielson is chief, and Miss Martin, who read the paper prepared by Miss McLean of Minneapolis, telling of her visits to the Naturalization Court where the new citizen is welcomed to the library.

Miss Hurlburt led the round table on administration and after various opinions and laws were read, a discussion followed of methods of detecting and punishing mutilations and theft. The report of the Library Legislation committee, Gratia Countryman, chairman, recommended revision of the county law; state aid for libraries; certification of librarians; and library instruction in the University.

The round table on "Recent Developments

in County Library Work," was led by Miss Countryman. Miss Field told of the work just started in Hennepin County. Miss Clark, of Hibbing, described her visits to the libraries of the United Kingdom in the British Isles, and compared the work of those libraries with the county libraries of America.

As a result of the discussion of publicity methods by Ruth Rosholt, a Publicity Committee of the state association will be appointed. Miss Rosholt agreed that the fundamental essential is the public spirit of the librarian. Efficient library service requires knowledge of the community and its needs, knowledge of the library's resources, publicity which makes these resources known in the proper quarter, and organization which puts all these into effect.

At the evening session Mayor Snively welcomed the visitors with a short talk. Mary E. Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, was the speaker of the evening. Her advice to librarians was for more personal reading of the higher type. Margaret C. Banning, author of several books of fiction, was present and urged less attention to the opinions of the group of younger critics and more to the opinions of one's readers.

The report of the Committee on Courses in Library Science, by Mrs. Jennie T. Jennings, chairman, was read by Mr. Wheelock on Wednesday. The suggestion of a library school at the University of Minnesota with a degree of bachelor of library science was unanimously endorsed by the association, and a resolution will be submitted to the state legislature during the coming session and to the board of regents of the University. The book symposium conducted by Miss Powell included books on religion and ethics, by Miss Hutchinson; technical books, by Miss Thornton and Miss Dutcher; history and biography, by Mrs. Blanchard and Miss Glennon; children's books, by Miss McCubrey and Miss Raines; fiction, by Miss Martin and Miss Lamb.

The afternoon session was conducted at the Morgan Park club house, following a ride to the steel plant and Jay Cooke Park. A committee was appointed to make a check list of books in foreign languages available in various libraries of the state. The meeting was turned over to the School Libraries Round Table, which was presided over by Miss Wood. Miss Fink told of training given the High School pupils in Faribault and the credit they receive for the work. Miss Gemmel described the work in Duluth of home reading and discussed the list issued by the state for the purpose. Morris Stevens told of the efforts in Hibbing to get

the rural children to do home reading, and Miss Walker, of Hibbing, of the reference work with the High School pupils in her city.

Resolutions were passed heartily approving the efforts of the League of Women Voters to secure the establishment of a Woman's Department in the Extension Division of the State University; and endorsing the resolution of the A. L. A. on school supervision in school libraries and its position on standardization.

Officers elected are: President, Frank K. Walter, University of Minnesota Library; first vice-president, Julia Fink, Faribault Public Library; second vice-president, Blanch Spooner, School and Public Library, Montevideo; secretary and treasurer, Sophia Lammers, Mankato Public Library. The next meeting will be held at Faribault.

NORTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE North Dakota Library Association held its seventeenth annual meeting at Devil's Lake, October 2 to 5. The meeting was held at the same time as the State Federation of Women's Clubs so that the members of that organization might attend the library meetings. As most of the North Dakota libraries were started by women's clubs, and in many cases are entirely supported by them, there is close connection between the two organizations and there was a large attendance at all the meetings.

Library publicity was the main subject discussed. The county library law comes before the legislature at the next session, and it is hoped that such an interest in the library will be aroused in the state that there will be no question in regard to the passing of the law.

The address of welcome was made by Allen V. Haig, chairman of the Devil's Lake City Commission, and the response by Clara A. Richards, president of the Association. Mrs. Lyman N. Cary brought greetings from the North Dakota Federation of Clubs, of which she is president. Mary F. Downey, secretary and director, reported on the work of the State Library Commission. The "afternoon with books" was led by Bessie Baldwin of Williston; Jessie Budge, of Grand Forks, discussed fiction; Mrs. M. A. Hildreth, of Fargo, history; and Lilian Mirick, of Wahpeton, poetry. Children's books were discussed by Gertrude M. Edwards, of Jamestown.

School library problems were the topic of the evening meeting. Superintendent Nelson Sauvain, president of the North Dakota Teachers' Association, presented the program of the N. E. A. Hazel McKay, superintendent of Ramsey County schools, discussed "Rural School Needs," and Mrs. W. L. Stockwell, of

Fargo, the presentation of a book exhibit suited to the existing law. Minnie Nelson, state Superintendent of Public Instruction, spoke on traveling libraries and the rural school, and the evening concluded with an address on "The School Curriculum and the Reading Habit," by Mary E. Downey.

Library publicity was considered on Tuesday morning, first by Inga Rynning, of Fargo, next in a talk on the newspapers and the library by Ethel M. Fleming, also of Fargo. Governor R. A. Nestos read the proclamation of North Dakota Library Week. Marie O'Brien, of Devil's Lake, spoke on the approaching Children's Book Week. Conferences on numerous topics of general library interest were held each afternoon at four o'clock.

It was decided to hold the 1923 meeting in the spring rather than in the fall, as being more convenient for the majority of the librarians present. Fargo was chosen for the next meeting place. Officers elected are: President, Mary E. Downey, secretary of the State Commission; vice-president, Bessie Baldwin, Williston Public Library; secretary-treasurer, Inga Rynning, Fargo Public Library.

GERTRUDE M. EDWARDS, *Secretary*.

MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FOURTEEN were present at the annual meeting of the Montana State Library Association, held October fifth to seventh at Miles City. The county library figured largely in the program, the association feeling that this is the solution of the question of library service for a rural state such as Montana. Miss Worden and Miss Kamps gave reports of great importance of their county work.

Three years of drought during the war era of high food prices resulted in a scarcity of funds for Montana, an agricultural state, which has blocked the Association's efforts to obtain the establishment of a library commission and library school. The University of Montana, at Missoula, is doing considerable work in distributing material to rural districts, and the Association voted to petition the next legislature to appropriate sufficient funds to pay the salary of an executive secretary to be located there to perform the equivalent of commission work until the state can support a full-fledged commission. The state board of education continues to plead lack of funds to the Association's request for a library school at the University. Some library instruction is now being given.

Affiliation with the A. L. A. was voted, as was the A. L. A.'s recommendation of a dollar per capita library tax, altho this standard is not now feasible for Montana. The A. L. A. was also asked to contribute to the expense of



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the bulletin on subscription books prepared by a committee of the Pacific Northwest Library Association. A plan to co-operate in the printing of lists of books was subscribed to by several of the librarians present. A committee was appointed to compile statistics of county libraries.

An interesting discussion on salaries led to the formulation of the following minimum scale, which was approved: Substitutes after six months' experience, thirty-five cents per hour; forty cents after a year's experience. Full time untrained assistant, \$100; if an accredited library school graduate, \$1,200 to \$1,800. A librarian of training and experience should receive not less than \$1,800. It was decided that at least fifty per cent of income should go for salaries, and that seventy-five per cent was permissible.

Officers elected are: President, Laura Zook, Miles City; vice-president, Louise Fernald, Great Falls; secretary, Clara Main, Lewiston; treasurer, Florence Lewis, Livingston. The next meeting will be held at Bozeman the last week of November, 1923.

ELIZABETH FORREST, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

TWO physical factors make the choice of the meeting place of the Colorado Library Association an arbitrary one. The mountain range that bisects the state makes it almost impossible for the librarians on the western slope to join the forces on the east, but as Denver is the largest library center in the state and has more representatives of the Association in its various libraries than in all the other libraries in the state combined, the meeting place must not be far from that city, and is always chosen on the eastern slope of the range. At the thirty-second annual meeting held at Fort Collins from September 27 to 29 inclusive the sole representative from the western slope was Mrs. McKinny of the Craig Public Library, who was also the first visitant from that section in the annals of the Association. Fort Collins is but forty miles from the Wyoming state line, and sixty miles from Denver. There were present twenty-four public librarians, twelve university librarians, the librarian of the State Museum, and five trustees, as well as five librarians from Wyoming.

College and reference libraries were the subject of the first session, public libraries of the second, and trustees of the last. Discussing the co-operation of librarians with their trustees, Miss Weaver of the Rocky Ford Public Library brought forward some unusually interesting ideas. A paper on "The Psychology of Lending Books" by June Linn, extension librarian of the

Denver Public Library, showed how sympathy with humanity relieves library work of drudgery. A reception at the unique Woman's Building on the campus of the State Agricultural College was one of the most pleasant of the social features of the meeting.

The Association put itself on record as favoring a county library law, and endorsing the principles established by the A. L. A. for the use of books and library supervision in the schools, as well as for its standards for a proper library income. It pledged its members to foster the work of the Colorado Child Welfare Bureau by placing in their libraries books and pamphlets on children's reading and children's hygiene.

Lucretia Vaile of the Denver Public Library was elected president for 1922-23. The other officers are: Vice-President, Julia Douglas, Evergreen Public Library; secretary-treasurer, Mary Weaver, Rocky Ford Public Library.

LENA R. FENTON, *Secretary*.

UTAH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

SALT Lake City was the scene of the ninth annual meeting of the Utah Library Association, with headquarters at the Public Library. Vice-President Julia T. Lynch presided. Levi Edgar Young, head of the department of western history at the University of Utah, in his address expressed the hope that the journals of Orson Pratt, William Clayton, Erastus Snow, Wilford Woodruff and others of Utah's first colonists will soon be properly edited and published, as they are among the most precious documents of western history. C. N. Jensen, superintendent of state schools, advocated the extension of the work of the county libraries and an increase in traveling libraries.

Grace W. Harris, librarian of the Ogden Carnegie Library, depicted the various types of library patrons in a paper on "Meeting the Public." Evelyn Bean, librarian of the Provo Public Library, reviewed some new books for the small library. Following luncheon the various libraries of the city were visited.

The following resolutions were passed:

Resolved: That the Utah Library Association feels very keenly the urgent need of a library organized for the state and that it pledges to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction its hearty co-operation in any steps he may take to secure the services of such an organizer.

The new officers are: President, Julia Lynch, assistant librarian, Salt Lake City Public Library; first vice-president, Clara Farnsworth of St. George; second vice-president, Miss Wright of Logan; secretary-treasurer, Minnie Margetts of the L. D. S. High School, Salt Lake City.

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- C.P. Carnegie Library School of Pittsburgh.
- D. Drexel Library School.
- Ill. University of Illinois Library School.
- L.A. Library School of the Los Angeles Public Library.
- N.Y.P.L. Library School of the New York Public Library.
- N.Y.S. New York State Library School.
- P. Pratt Institute School of Library Science.
- R. Riverside Library School.
- S. Simmons College School of Library Science.
- S.L. St. Louis Library School.
- Syr. Syracuse University Library School.
- U.C. University of California Course in Library Science.
- Wis. Wisconsin University Library School.
- W.R. Western Reserve Library School.
- Wash. University of Washington Library School.

BARNES, Cornelia, 1905-06 S. spec., who has specialized in library work in the Bureaus of the Government, has now resigned her position in the Bureau of Markets, Washington, to devote most of her time to special bibliographic and library research for firms and individuals. She is also instructing in the School for Business Librarians under Miss Hasse's direction.

BAUMLER, Jane, 1913-15 S., children's librarian of the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library, has been promoted to have supervision of the main circulating department.

BREWER, Margaret, 1918 S., has been appointed librarian of the Silver Bay School for Boys, Silver-Bay-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.

BUDLONG, Minna Clark, was ordained and installed as minister of the People's Church (of Unitarian and other religious liberals) at Kalamazoo, Mich., on October 11th. Mrs. Budlong was formerly librarian of the East Avenue Branch of the Kalamazoo Public Library.

CAREY, Alice V., formerly branch librarian of the Westwood Branch, has been appointed to have charge of story telling at the Public Library of Cincinnati.

CONE, Jessica G., 1895 N. Y. S., and Helen Y. Hough, 1921 S., are assistant librarians at the Goodwin Institute Library, Memphis, Tenn. The appointment of Olive Mayes, 1913 P., as librarian, has already been announced.

CRANE, Helen M., 1905 Ill., has resigned the librarianship of the State Teachers College library, Valley City, N. D., to join the staff of the Detroit Public Library.

COOKE, Edith, formerly librarian of Buena Vista College library, has joined the staff of the Burlington (Ia.) Public Library.

DALEY, (Mrs.) Edith, vice-president of the San José League of American Pen Women, has been appointed librarian to succeed Charles F. Woods, who resigned in the summer to take charge of the Riverside (Calif.) Public Library.

DORRANCE, Frances, 1918 N. Y. S., has been obliged for family reasons to resign her position as head of circulation in the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barré, Pa.

ETHELL, Emily G., 1920 S., has accepted the position of librarian of the Northern Arizona Normal School, at Flagstaff, Ariz.

EASBY, Harriet M., first librarian of the Queens Borough Public Library, died suddenly on October 9th, aged 63. Miss Easby was a charter member of the Twentieth Century Club which was instrumental in establishing the first library in Queens Borough at Richmond Hill. She took up her work in February, 1899, and the library was opened on April 8th of that year. In 1901 it was ceded to the Queens Borough Public Library.

ESTEY, Helen G., 1905 D., of Gardner, appointed librarian of the Athol (Mass.) Public Library in succession to Pearl Mason, who is now librarian of the State Normal School at Bloomsburg, Pa.

FULLER, (Mrs.) Marion Cobb, of the Rockland (Me.) Public Library, has been appointed reference librarian at the State Library in succession to Bernadene Morrison.

FURST, (Mrs.) Elizabeth H., librarian of the Parlin Memorial Library, Everett, Mass., succeeds Mabel L. Moore as librarian of the Adams (Mass.) Public Library. Miss Moore has joined the staff of the Newark Public Library.

GILPIN, Margaret, formerly librarian of Nashwauk, Minn., appointed librarian of Mt. Iron, Minn.

HINCHEY, Madeline V., formerly of the Cataloging Department of the Yale University Library, appointed assistant librarian of the Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Va.

HOXIE, Louise, 1915 S., appointed assistant librarian at Marshall College, Huntington, W. Va.

JOHNSON, Agnes, 1913 Wash., librarian of the Hoquiam (Wash.) Public Library since 1917, is now children's librarian at Hibbing, Minn. She is succeeded by Helen Corbitt, 1918 Wash.

JONES, (Rev.) O. B., appointed law librarian of the Mahoning County Library Association, Youngstown, Ohio.

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Edinburgh Review. Complete from its beginning in 1802 to 1868 inclusive, with the 5 scarce index volumes. 133 vols., 8vo, half calf. Edinburgh, 1802-1868. \$60.00.

Illinois Historical Society's Collections. Complete from its beginning in 1903 to 1919 inclusive. 13 vols. thick 8vo, cloth. Springfield, 1903-1919. \$45.00.

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KRAUSNICK, Gertrude, reference librarian at the University of Iowa is now librarian of Minnesota Historical Society Library at St. Paul in place of Wilhemina E. Carothers who resigned to succeed Frederic Brasch as reference librarian of the J. J. Hill Library.

LAING, Hazel, librarian of Buhl (Minn.) Public Library has resigned to join the National Safety Council Library in Chicago. She is succeeded by Nelle A. Olson librarian of International Falls.

LEATHERMAN, Marian, 1916 Ill., appointed librarian of the State Teachers College at Kirksville, Mo.

NORRIS, Helen H., 1920 N. Y. S., has joined the University of Minnesota Library staff as cataloger; Emma Stephenson, 1922 N. Y. P. L., has been appointed assistant reference librarian in charge of the Periodical Room, and Pansy M. Myers catalog assistant.

OAKS, Catherine S., appointed librarian of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, in succession to Mrs. Laura Collison Gates resigned.

ODEH, Nasra, 1910-11 S. spec., who has recently returned from two years in India and the Orient, appointed librarian of the Worcester State Hospital, at Worcester, Mass.

PENROSE, Alma, associate librarian of Carlton College appointed librarian of the University High School where a model collection and equipment with high school libraries will be built up.

PRAY, Alice, assistant librarian of the New Hampshire State Library, has resigned to become librarian of the Kern County Law Library, Bakersville, Calif.

PRATT, Gladys F., librarian of the Woman's College, Newark, Del., has been appointed assistant in the University of Illinois Library.

RICE, John W., 1920-21 N. Y. S., who was for seven months acting art librarian, is now chief classifier in the Princeton University Library.

RONAN, Elizabeth, librarian of the Battle Creek (Mich.) Public Library, has resigned to become chief of circulation of the Flint (Mich.) Public Library on December 1.

ROSE, Grace D., librarian of the Des Moines Public Library, has been appointed by the Governor as library representative on the Illiteracy Commission.

SMITH, Elva S., director of children's work at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and author of "Mystery Tales" for boys and girls published by Lothrop, Lee and Shepherd, now gives us "More Mystery Tales" published by the same firm.

TEAL, William, assistant reference librarian of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, has resigned after twenty one years' service to succeed Mabel Rieley as librarian of the Cicero (Ill.) Public Library.

UNDERHILL, Adelaide, associate librarian of Vassar College, appointed librarian to succeed Amy L. Reed. Miss Underhill, who was part time professor in the Department of English while librarian, will now devote her entire time to teaching in the Department.

In addition to the appointments previously noted, the following positions have been taken by members of the class of 1922 of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh: Dorothy I. Blakslee, school librarian, Aspinwall, Pa.; Mathilde Lowery, assistant cataloger, Public Library, Akron, Ohio; Miriam Luke, children's librarian, Carnegie Library, Homestead, Pa.; Georgie G. McAfee, head of the Extension Department, Public Library, Evansville, Ind. (reappointed); Mildred M. McWilliams, Department of Work with Schools, and Mabelle M. Runner, reference assistant, Wylie Avenue Branch, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

The nine seniors graduating in June from the University of Illinois Library School received appointments as follows: Percy D. Hammond, assistant librarian, A. and M. College of Texas, College Station, Texas; Jackson E. Towne, superintendent of evening service, Yale University Library, New Haven, Conn.; Myron W. Getchell and Sarah L. Woods, assistants, University of Illinois Library, Urbana; Marie M. Hostetter, classifier of University of Kansas Library, Lawrence; Miles O. Price, librarian U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.; Fanny A. Coldren, assistant cataloger, University of Texas Library, Austin. Isaac V. Lucero is working as a student in the Wisconsin Free Library Commission; after a few months he will return to the Philippines. Kate S. Kepler is compelled to remain at home temporarily, Ashland, Wisconsin. Violet Lambert, 1921-22, is an assistant in the Leland Stanford, Jr. University Library.

Among recent appointments of the Class of 1922 of the Riverside Library Service School are the following: Eleanora O'Toole, assistant in the library of the Los Angeles Security Trust and Savings Bank; Emily Isobel Heath and Frances J. Heath, assistants in the Pomona Public Library; Bertha M. Walsworth, assistant in the Long Beach (Calif.) Public Library; (Mrs.) Myra B. Lyons, assistant in the San Diego (Calif.) State Teachers' College Library; Zella Ditler, cataloger in the Redlands Public Library; Jean Woodruff, assistant in the Riverside Public Library beginning September 1st.



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CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

The September and October numbers of *Special Libraries* are Detroit numbers, the former giving the proceedings of the thirteenth annual convention and the latter the papers contributed.

"Fundamentals of Reference Service" is a new edition of a pamphlet issued especially for Wisconsin libraries by the Wisconsin Library School. The A. L. A. has taken over an edition in order to make it available to all libraries.

"A Shelf of Books for a One-room School," is an illustrated, annotated list of the twenty-five books chosen by votes of librarians and teachers as the best twenty-five books for any one-room school, price, 100 copies \$1; 1,000 copies \$5.

A new edition of Lutie Stearns' "Essentials in Library Administration" has been prepared by Ethel Farquhar McCollough, of the Evansville Public Library, and is published by the A. L. A. in the Library Handbook series. This edition has been thoroly revised and enlarged to include the record of progress made during the ten years which have elapsed since the publication of the second edition, and "no process or method has been described that has not been tested out in actual experience."

"Children's Books for Christmas Presents" is an A. L. A. list intended as an aid in purchasing books for children. All the books in it are reported in print (August, 1922). Titles are arranged in three general groups: picture books and other books for little children, books for young children, and books for older boys and girls. Brief notes are given to guide the purchaser in determining which books are best adapted to the particular child and notes from many library lists have been used without indicating the source.

At the request of the Library Commission of the Boy Scouts of America the Children's Librarians Section of the A. L. A. will prepare for publication in 1923 a recommended list of children's books for the home library. A preliminary selection of eighty-five titles has been made by a committee representing the children's librarians under the direction of Elva S. Smith, of Pittsburgh, chairman of the Section, and this briefer list is issued specially for use during Children's Book Week, November 12th to 18th. The title is "Gifts for Children's Bookshelves," and the price \$2 for 100; \$4 for 250; \$7 for 500; \$12 for 1,000.

In "Biblioteksstudier i U. S. A., jamte Riktlinjer för ett Svenskt Tekniskt Centralbibliotek,"

Hilda S. Lindstedt, librarian of the Royal Technical University at Stockholm gives some impressions of her last year's visit to the United States for the purpose of studying the American library system, especially as used in the scientific and engineering world, together with an outline for a central technical library for Sweden. The 50-page booklet is published by A. B. Gunnar Tisells Tekniska Forlag, and forms Meddelande N:R. 18, 1922, of the Ingeniörs Vetenskaps Akademien.

A. L. A. publications announced for early distribution are:

A. L. A. Handbook. Probably ready in December. Free to members who have paid four dollar dues in 1922; 75 cents to others.

Books and Thrift, by Ruth G. Nichols of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. A new edition will be ready about December 1, probably in the form of an 8-page leaflet. Prepared for distribution by libraries especially during Thrift Week in January.

Papers and Proceedings of the Detroit Conference. A much fuller report of the conference than was printed in 1920 or 1921. Ready in November. Free to members who have paid four dollars for membership dues in 1922. \$1.25 to those who have paid two dollar dues. \$2.00 to others.

New Guide to Reference Books, by Isadore G. Mudge. This might have been called the fourth edition of Kroeger's Guide, but the new title page has been prepared with a view to giving full credit to the present as well as to the original compiler. It has been thoroly revised. Ready in November. Cloth \$3.

U. S. Government Documents, by James I. Wyer. A thoro revision of the A. L. A. manual chapter and the Handbook on Government Documents now combined in one pamphlet, and issued as A. L. A. Manual, chapter 23. Ready in November. One copy 25 cents; 25 or more copies 10 cents each.

Reading Course on Business, by Ethel Cleland, librarian of the Business Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library. This is the third item in the series of reading courses issued for free distribution by librarians to serious readers. It prescribes approximately forty books. The subjects and the titles were chosen largely on the recommendations of the commercial departments of the leading universities. The titles are printed as marginal notes, an arrangement which gives due prominence to the books and at the same time permits the presentation of the text in readable form. Ready in November.

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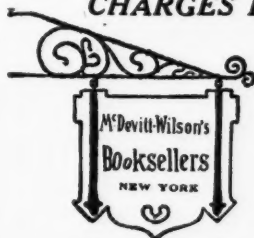


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ADVERTISING. See BEVERAGES; ICE CREAM

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See also U. S.—CENSUS; SWINE

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Bernhardt, Joshua. *The Alaskan Engineering Commission*; its history, activities, and organization. Appleton. 20 p. bibl. O. \$1. (Inst. for Govt. Research; service monographs of the U. S. Govt.; no. 4).

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ANGLO-SAXON LANGUAGE—ETYMOLOGY

Jente, Richard. *Die mythologischen Ausdrücke im altenglischen Wortschatz; eine kulturgeschichtlich-etymologische Untersuchung*. Heidelberg: C. Winter. 12 p. bibl.

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U. S. Library of Congress. *Supplementary list of references on commercial arbitration*. 4 mim. p. Aug. 7, 1922.

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Li, Chuan Shih. *Central and local finance in China*; a study of the fiscal relations between the central, the provincial and the local governments. Longmans. 6 p. bibl. O. pap. \$2 (Studies in history, economics and public law; v. 99, no. 2, whole no. 226).

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U. S. Library of Congress. *List of references on dust in relation to health*. 8 typew. p. May 19, 1922. 90 c. (P. A. I. S.).

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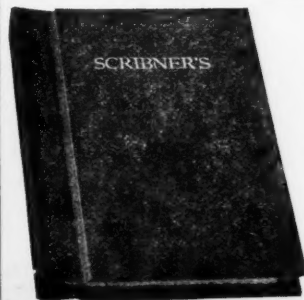
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HYGIENE. See DISEASES; DUST

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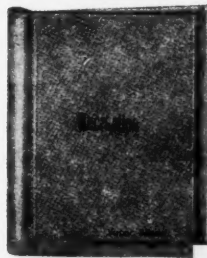
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